REPORT

ON THE

TERRITORIES

OF THE

RAJAH OF NAGPORE;

SUBMITTED

TO THE

SUPREME GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

108370

By RICHARD JENKINS, Esq.

RESIDENT AT THE COURT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJAH OF NAGPORE.

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To

THE RIGHT HONORABLE

WILLIAM PITT, LORD AMHERST,

Governor General, &c. &c. &c.

FORT WILLIAM.

MY LORD,

I have, at length, the honor to submit to your Lordship, a Report on the Territories of the Nagpore State.

I trust it will be found sufficiently full and distinct, in the most material parts, which are those relating to our management of the Rajah's concerns, for the last eight years, and although the historical and some other sections may appear to occupy more than their due space in an official document, yet they may possess some practical value, inasmuch as they tend to throw a light on the political and moral state of the country in past and present times, and afford a criterion for estimating the actual and probable effects of the recent changes on the People and Government of Nagpore, and on the British interests.

Errors and inaccuracies will, no doubt, be discovered in some instances, but these will not, I hope, be found to be so many, or so great, as to take materially from the general correctness of the information which it is intended to convey.

The

The ground-work of the Report rests partly on my own materials, and partly on the contributions of my assistants in the different branches. The matter for the description and classification of the inhabitants of *Deogurh*, the account of the revenue system, and much of the judicial and commercial sections, were furnished by Captain A. Gordon, Captain Hamilton, and Captain Isacke, respectively. I owe, besides, many valuable memoranda, on the various subjects of enquiry, to all the Superintendants, whose able exertions in the administration of the country, in their respective divisions and departments, is better eulogised in the results which the Report displays, than in any commendation I can give them in words. To Captain Hamilton, indeed, I am still farther indebted for a revision of the whole Report, as well as for many useful suggestions towards its improvement. The errors and deficiencies, in matter and style, I must acknowledge as my own; but I beg your Lordship to consider them as proceeding more from inexperience in studied composition, and from inadvertence and occasional flagging of attention, in preparing so long a document, than from any want of desire to render it more worthy of your perusal.

The Report will reach your Lordship in several successive packets, as the whole is too voluminous to send at once. It will be accompanied by two maps, exhibiting the former and present extent and divisions of the Nagpore dominions.

I have the honor to be,
With the highest respect,
My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient
Humble Servant,
RICHARD JENKINS,
RESIDENT.

NAGPORE RESIDENCY,
July 27, 1826.

SECTION FIRST.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

OF THE

COUNTRY.

THE dominions of the Rajah of Berar, before the war of 1803, extended east and west, from the 76th to the 87th degree of east longitude, and north and south, from the 19th to the 24th degree of north latitude. Within their limits were included, to the westward, nearly all the province of Berar; in the centre, Gondwanah and Gurrah Mundilla, with part of Rewah, Chuteesgurh, and its dependencies of Sirgoojah, Sumbhulpore and Bustar; and to the eastward, Cuttack and Orissa. The peace of Deogaon was purchased by Rughojee, with the sacrifice of Berar and Cuttack; and Appa Sahib's treachery has been the cause of transferring to the Company much more of the territories of the Nagpore state, to the north, to the east, and the west, so that it is difficult to give a description of the parts remaining to the present Rajah, with any reference to ancient divisions, or well known barriers, whether of mountains or rivers. Preliminary Observations.

The

Districts acquired by the Company.

The following may be mentioned as the general designation of the districts acquired by the Company:

North of the Nerbudda, Jubbulpore and Dhamonee, with Sohagpore.

South of that river, Mundilla and Seonee Chuppurah, to the east and south; the southern part of the valley of the Nerbudda, from Sreenager to Seonee Hoosengabad, on the north, and Beitool, Mooltye, &c., to the west and south.

In Berar, Gawelgurh and Nurnallah, with the districts of Akote, Argaum, &c.

To the east, Sergoojah and Sumbhulpore, with their dependencies.

Territory reserved to the Rajah.

The following were the districts reserved to the Rajah:

1st. The district of Deogurh above the Ghauts.
2d. Deogurh below the Ghauts, or Nagpore.
3d. The Wyne Gunga district, and Lanjhee.
4th. Chandah.
5th. Chuteesgurh and its dependencies.

Boundaries and extent.

These territories, as shewn by the accompanying map, are divided on the west from Berar, by the river Wurda, running south, from the point where it issues from the Injardy hills, to its junction with the Wyne Gunga, and by the latter river, to its junction with the Godavery at Chinnoor. The boundary to the south and south-east, can only be described in general, by an imaginary waving line, extending westward from Goomsir, near Ganjam, to the source of the Inderowtee river, and

and along the course of that river, to its junction with the Godavery, near Mahadeopore, and below Chinnoor. North and north-west of this line, are the wild Zemindaries, subject to Chandah and Chuteesgurh, Arpilly, Aheree, Bustar, and Kuronde,* belonging to Nagpore; and to the south and south-east, other uncivilized districts belonging to the Nizam, and Jypore and Visramcottah, dependencies of the Company in the northern Circars. To the eastward, the province of Chuteesgurh, belonging to Nagpore. is separated from the Company's newly acquired dependencies of Sirgoojah and Sumbhulpore, &c., by the Sirgoojah and Koorbah ranges of hills, following the course of the Hutsoo river, from Omerkuntuk to within ten or twelve miles of the Mahanuddee river; and to the south of that river, by the Fooljur and Sonakhan mountains; but the eastern limits of Bustar and Kurronde are not known. The boundaries of the Rajah's territory on the north, can be better understood by inspection of the map, than by any elaborate description.

The general situation of these territories is between 18° 40′ and 20° 40′ north latitude, and 78° 20′ and 83° east longitude, though Kuronde and Bustar probably extend as far as 84°; and in a line drawn south-west from the Wurda, near Amnere, to the mountains near Goomsir, the greatest length is about 550 miles. From north to south, and from east to west, the average length and breadth may, however, be computed at 300 miles. Colonel Blacker estimates the area at 70,000 square miles.

General geographical and physical features.

The figure of the country is extremely irregular, as may be concluded from the preceding observations. Its general aspect may be said to be mountainous and woody, interspersed with occasional tracts of cultivated lands

* The Cala Handy of the old maps.

lands of various forms and sizes. To the north-east and south, are situated regions particularly mountainous, inhabited by wild tribes, chiefly Goands, and composing the Zemindaree, or as it is here called, the Mookassa portion of the Rajah's dominions; that is, they are held by petty chiefs, paying only a tribute, or quit rent, to the Government, and exercising an almost independent power over their lands.

The northern portion above alluded to, is composed of Deogurh Balaghaut, encompassed on three sides by the Company's acquired territories, and the hilly tract lying more to the eastward, in the neighbourhood of Omerkuntuk. The second, is the country extending from Omerkuntuk, along the eastern hills of Chuteesgurh, to the Mahanuddee, and the wilds of Bustar and Kuronde, the mountains of which are branches of the great range which runs parallel to the shores of the Bay of Bengal, in the rear of Cuttack and the northern Circars; and the third, comprises the greater part of the district of Chandah. Besides these, there is a fourth tract of a similar description, being a stripe of mountains and jungle, no where less than thirty miles in breadth, branching off from the Vindhian range, near Lanjhee, and running south into the wilds of Chandah, so as to form a strongly-marked boundary between Chuteesgurh, and the districts of the Wyne Gunga and Lanjhee.

Taking for a guide the system of its rivers, the country again seems to divide itself naturally into two portions. The first comprehends the western districts, watered by the Wyne Gunga and Wurdah rivers, and their tributary streams; in other words, the whole of the Nagpore territories west of the Lanjhee hills; the second includes Chuteesgurh and its dependencies, watered by the Mahanuddee and its tributaries; Bustar and Kuronde might, indeed, be separated into a third division,

as

as the Inderowtee, which is the principal river of the former, flows into the Godavery, and the rivers of Kuronde both into it and the Mahanuddee, which itself, takes its rise at Shawah, in Bustar.

Deogurh above the Ghauts.

Deogurh above the Ghauts, is an elevated tract looking down to the north, on the valley of the Nurbuddah, and to the south, on the plains of Nagpore; and it is situated on the table land of the portion of the Vindhian hills, lying south of the Nurbuddah.

It may be said to consist of a regular succession of hill and dale, formed by the larger and smaller ranges of hills, which cover its surface, and whose general direction is east and west. The highest of these ridges, is that commencing on the confines of Addygaon and the Hurrye Jugeer, near Umberwara, which may be said to form its northern boundary, and which, with a mean breadth of about eight miles, extends for seventy miles in a direction a little to the south of west, as far as the Shawpore Ghaut. From nearly the centre of this ridge, rises the high land near Bhut Ragurh, and from the western extremity, the mass of the Mahadeo mountains, the highest of which is Dowlagheree.* Throughout its whole extent, this ridge can be approached from the south and north only, by ascending Ghauts more or less difficult; the ascent from the south, however, being, in general, the easiest. At the bottom of this high land, lies a beautiful valley, extending from Chupparah east, to Hurdagurh west, and this is divided by an ill-defined range of hills from a third stripe, which consists of a very hilly tract, from which you descend

* The height of the Mahadeo mountains hasnot been ascertained. Ambarmaph, apparently the heighest part of the north-eastern quarter of Deogurh, is about 2500 feet above the sea. Chindwara, farther south, on the second level, is 2100; and the third step about 1900, at the top of the Taraghat, or 800 feet above Nagpore. The top of the Kumarpanee Ghaut is only 1641 feet.

descend to the plains of Nagpore by the Ghauts, extending from Pandoornah to Kumar Panee and Corye.

Deogurh below the Ghauts.

The country immediately to the south of this table land, is intersected with various ranges of hills branching from the Vindhian one: they are generally covered with loose stones and jungle, and broken with ravines and valleys. The rest of Deogurh, situated between the rivers Wurdah and Wyne Gunga, and extending to the southward as far as the confines of the Chandah district, with the exception of an extensive hilly tract stretching from the vicinity of Nagpore to near the Wurdah, and from Katool to Anjhee, is generally open and undulating, watered by several considerable streams, and chequered by detached hills and low ridges. In the immediate vicinity of Nagpore, the absence of trees and enclosures gives the country a bare appearance; but in other parts, particularly in the vicinity of the hills, plantations of tamarind, mango and other fruit trees, surrounding the villages, with detached patches of jungle, and numbers of mowah trees, render its aspect less sterile and unpromising.*

Wyne Gunga or Eastern districts.

To the eastward of the Wyne Gunga is the extensive tract of jungle and hills already mentioned, as bounding Chuteesgurh to the west. The hills form low and rocky ridges, with extensive valleys, and some open and cultivated plains between: the country is more open and even in the vicinity of the Wyne Gunga, than to the eastward, where the hills are higher and more abrupt, and are covered with large and lofty forest trees, giving it a bold and romantic appearance.

Adjoining

* The height of Nagpore, or rather Taklee, near it, has been found to be 1101 feet above the level of the sea; but probably the general level of the plain may be taken at 1050 feet. The country falls towards Bhundara, also towards the north, rising again, near the foot of the Ghauts, to the level of Nagpore.

Adjoining these districts to the south, and touching them at Brumapooree, on the Wyne Gunga, and near Woon, on the Wurdah, is Chandah. The northern and western parts of this district are of a description very similar to the adjoining one of Deogurh, but somewhat more covered with jungle. Two ranges of hills intersect these parts of it; one running from Shunkerpore to Peerzagurh, for about ten miles; the other extending about forty miles from Ramdigga, in the direction of south, and afterwards south-east to north. The eastern and southern parts are the mountainous and woody tracts occupied by the Gond Zemindars, adjoining to Chuteesgurh and Bustar. Chandah.

To the eastward of the divisions already described, and divided from them by the Lanjhee range of hills, lies the province of Chuteesgurh and its dependencies.* The form of the country, Bustar and Kuronde not included, approaches most to an oval, the length lying nearly north and south. In the centre, it is open and level, or at most slightly undulated. The only exceptions to this general description, consist in a narrow stripe of jungle, stretching across the district in a westerly direction, along the Sew river, and a partial discontinuance of the surrounding belt of jungle in the valley, through which the Mahanuddee passes towards the sea. Chuteesgurh.

Bustar and Kuronde are both described to be woody and hilly tracts, the valleys of which alone are cultivated, and partially cleared of jungle.

Chuteesgurh is everywhere surrounded by hills. The range near Lanjhee to the west, the mountains of Omerkuntuck to the north, and those

* The height of the Lanjhee hills has not been ascertained at the highest point, by barometrical observations. Bhundara, on the Wyne Gunga, is only 892·754 feet above sea, and

those near Sirgoojah to the north-east, are the most woody and inaccessible. Sonakhan, to the south-east, is also strong from the closeness of the bamboo jungle and suddenness of the ascents, but every where there are, probably, roads through them, many of which, with little trouble, might be made practicable for wheel carriages.

Rivers navigable or otherwise. Deogurh and Chanda.

The general system of the rivers has been already alluded to. The four districts first described, are watered by the rivers and streams which ultimately fall into the Godavery, and take their rise in the Vindhian mountains, or some of the southern branches of that chain. There are some streams which, rising in the Kar-puthar, or most mountainous portion of Deogurh, above the Ghauts, run into the Nurbudah. The chief rivers, however, viz. the Wurda and the Wyne Gunga, and the Kankan, the Pech, and the Colar, which are tributaries to the latter, flow to the south.

The largest river is the Wyne Gunga, which rises in the district of Seonee Chupparah,* and passing through the town of Chupparah, emerges from the hills at Tamboordah, about twenty miles north from Rampylee. Flowing thence in a southerly course, by Bhundarah, Ambhorah, and Pownee, and through the district of Chandah, it enters the Godavery at Kolleshwur, near Chinnoor. The channel of this river is upwards of half a mile in breadth in many parts of its course, but where it is confined by the

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whilst Nagpore is 1101-814, and Rypore 1747-100, Omerkuntuk was found to be only 3463-810. The height of the hills towards Sirgoojah has not been ascertained. Cakair, to the south, is 1953-041, and Shawa, at the source of the Mahanuddee, 2117-289. Ruttenpore is 1538-662, and Dhumderee, just below the point where the Mahanuddee emerges into the plain of Chuteesgurh, from the high country near its source, is 1720-397. Deegoree, near the Seo river, where it joins the Mahanuddee, is 1384-745.

* The source of Wyne Gunga is 1850-180 feet above the sea.

the hills, it does not exceed four or five hundred yards. It is fordable in most places, in the hot weather.

The Wyne Gunga receives no streams of any magnitude from the eastern hills.

The Kunhaun and Pech are the largest rivers which flow into it from the west. They rise in the Mahadea hills, or in their vicinity, and passing the former by Deogurh, and the latter by Chowrye, after entering the plains a little to the north of Palora and Khapah, form a junction at Bina, about nine miles north of Nagpore. These rivers are again joined by the Colar at Waregaon, and, under the joint name of Kanhan, flow in the rear of the British cantonment at Kamptee, and fall into the Wyne Gunga about two miles north from Ambhora. It is five hundred yards wide near Nagpore.

The Wurda rises in the district of Mooltye, and flowing south, joins the Wyne Gunga at Seonee, below Chandah. This river, to the southward of Hingunghaut, is about the size of the Kanhan, opposite Nagpore. It has many fine pools in the hottest weather, but is generally fordable at all seasons, excepting in the height of the rains. The streams and rivulets which have their source in the hilly tract to the west of Nagpore, all flow, north or south, into the Wurdah.

The beds of the larger rivers are usually confined by high and steep banks, becoming less abrupt when the country is open and level.—The channels are sandy, crossed, in many parts, by ledges of rocks, sand-banks, and shallows, which prevent them from being navigable soon after the termination of the rains. During the rainy season, however, they may be navigated by loaded boats and rafts, but they are not so much used as

they might be for the purposes of inland trade.—The Wyne Gunga yet serves for transporting timber, brought into it down its principal tributaries, from the hills, in considerable quantities, as well as rice, and other articles of raw produce, between the districts on its banks. The Kankan, Pech, and Colar are used for the same purpose, and by means of them, and the Wyne Gunga, the city of Nagpore and cantonments are supplied with most of the timber required for building. The Wyne Gunga, in the lower part of its course, is said to be navigable during the rains for boats of six hundred maunds burthen. The Wurda is also navigable during the rains, as high as Rallegong; above that point, excepting in very high floods, the navigation would be impracticable, owing to a fall in the river about three miles from Natchingong. The Wunna river, which passes the large trading town of Hingunghaut, and falls into the Wurda, is also navigable for boats, someway above the latter place, in the height of the rains.

Rivers in Chuteesgurh.

The rivers of Chuteesgurh are the Mahanuddee, which rises near Shawah, in Bustar, about thirty miles east of Kakair, and does not run in the course assigned to it by Arrowsmith.—It is navigable as far as its junction with the Sew river, beyond Sewry Narain, from July to February, after which it becomes too shallow; and during the rains, boats might come up to Rajoo, or even further. On either side of Sumbhulpore, the bed is rocky, and some rapids are formed, but they are not material impediments, and there are no others. Supplies from Calcutta, by water, have been landed twenty-six miles from Rycpore, at Singah, on the Sew river, in perfect good order. They were conveyed from Sewry Narain in the small canoes in common use on the river; but boats of a considerable size may, at the most favorable season, come up into Chuteesgurh. This stream, and the other navigable rivers of the province, afford a means of transporting its produce to the sea, and to the markets of the eastern coasts, which

which it is probable will, one day, be resorted to, and tend, by giving activity to trade, materially to add to its prosperity.

Next in importance to the Mahanuddee, is the Sew; it rises in Wyergurh, and after traversing the western part of Chuteesgurh, joins the Mahanuddee about ten miles north-east of Lohun. It is navigable to beyond Simgah, from July till February, and partially throughout the whole year, the water lying in extensive and deep pools.

The Karoo river rises in Kakair, and passing Ryepore, joins the Sew not far from Simgah. It is navigable during the rains.—As an experiment, Colonel Agnew brought some supplies, which had arrived at Simgah from Calcutta, up this stream to Ryepore.

The Jonk river rises in Nawagurh Bendry, and flowing north, along the eastern boundary of Chuteesgurh, falls into the Mahanuddee, nearly opposite to Sewry Narain. Gold, in small quantities, is said to be found in its bed.

The Kutsoo rises in the district of Sohagepore, and running south along the eastern frontier of Chuteesgurh, falls into the Mahanuddee about ten miles east of Sewry Narain. It is navigable to a considerable extent of its course.

The Arp, which passes Belaspore, is also navigable during the rains.

Next to the rivers, might be specified lakes, or natural sheets of water, but this country furnishes no object worthy of notices strictly coming under that designation

Lakes and Tanks, natural and artificial.

The

The springs of the different rivers furnish some natural pieces of water of a smaller size, as the Koond, or well at Omerkuntuk, from which the Nurbuddah rises, and which has been built up into a tank; as well as those of the Sone, and the Wyne Gunga. The first indications of the Mahanuddee, are some pools of considerable length and depth, which are kept full all the year by the moisture of the neighbouring plains; and at the top of the first table land, between Ruttenpore and Omerkuntuk, there are very deep and extensive bogs, whence the Arp, and other streams which flow into Chuteesgurh, take their rise.

The largest artificial tanks, and in the greatest number, are to be found in the districts east of the Wyne Gunga. The most deserving of notice, which may almost be termed natural lakes, since art has had so little share in their construction, are those called Nawagaon Band of Pertaubgurh, and the Sconce Band at Sabungurhee. The former is about twenty-four miles in circumference, and is formed by two embankments of very small extent.

The circumference of the Sconce Band is about six miles. These banks are used for the cultivation of sugar-cane and rice, in which the districts east of the Wyne Gunga abound.

In the Nagpore district there are several fine artificial tanks, particularly three near the city; one at Ramteak, one in the vicinity of Mansoor, and several at Killode, and other places. These works, however, are not generally applied to cultivation, excepting that of gardens in their immediate vicinity.

In Deogurh, above the Ghauts, the tanks are few and of no account. The sugar cultivation, for which it is famous, is carried on by means of wells.

In

In Chutteesgurh, the tanks are numerous, particularly at Ruttenpore, Rypore, Dhumdah, &c., where, besides contributing to assist the cultivation of the rice, which is the most common product of the district, they have been converted to the purposes of defence for the forts at those places.—Most of these are artificially excavated, and many built round with masonry, and they are of a different character from those above described, which are formed by taking advantage of nullahs, when they happen to flow through natural basons surrounded by heights, and requiring the gorge only to be filled up with masonry.

Natural productions. Forests.

Already has been described, generally, the situation of the masses and belts of forest and jungle, which cover so large a part of the territories of the Rajah of Nagpore. Captain Gordon and Captain Wilkinson, the superintendents of the Nagpore and Wyne Gunga districts, which are the most cultivated parts of the country, estimate, that one-third of the whole area is occupied by jungle, and an equal portion by hilly, barren tracts. In the hills, on the confines of Deogurh above the Ghauts, good teak, and a variety of other timber trees are produced, which are floated down the Pech and Kanhaun rivers to Kamptee; and in the Lanjhee range, timber of a still larger size is also found, and brought into the Wyne Gunga by means of the streams that flow into it from the eastward. Timber of a similar description, and in considerable quantity, is found in Chanda and Deogurh above the Ghauts, but from the want of water-carriage, it has not been hitherto turned to much account.

Timber.

Teak is not abundant in Chutteesgurh, although it is produced in the direction of Lanjhee, Wyragurh, and Ballode; but in Bustar it is found in great quantities, and of sufficient size to render it an object of pursuit for building vessels of the dimensions which navigate the Coromandel Coast; and the Inderowty river affords facilities for bringing it from the

interior to a point where it can be formed into raft, and conveyed down the Godavery to Coringa.

The Rall, or rosin tree, as also other large wood, is obtained in the forests of Kakair, and in the hills north of Ruttenpore; and the Sal, or Shorea robusta, attains a considerable size, and is the most common tree observed in the Omerkuntuk range.

Grains and Pulses.

The grains produced in the greatest quantities, are wheat, chuna, (cicer arietinum), juwaree (holcus sorghum), and rice. The two first are raised in almost every part of the country, whilst the principal seats of the juwaree cultivation are in the vicinity of Nagpore, and of the rice in the Wyne Gunga districts, Chanda, and Chutteesgurh. Kodoo, (paspalum frumentaceum) and Kootkee, are grown in the inferior soils; and Indian corn, barley, and bajra are found, but in no great abundance, in most of the districts.

The pulses are of various kinds, common to most parts India.

Spices.

The vegetable productions, which may be termed spices, are the coriander seed, cummin, aniseed, sweet fennel, ginger, mustard, chillies, turmerick, and some others, used as medicine or curry stuff.

Gums.

There is a great variety of gums produced in the jungles, particularly about Lanjhee and in Chutteesgurh, and large quantities are exported. Colonel Agnew mentions the practice common in Chutteesgurh, of mixing the gums of different trees together. They are used also in the country, in food, and most frequently prepared as sweetmeats. There are many gums said to possess medicinal properties.

The

Dyes.

The dyes are, the safflower, the morinda citrifolia, and turmerick, which are cultivated plants, and the lakh, kumcela, hirda, and other jungle productions. The indigo, though not uncommon in its wild state, has never been cultivated.

Oils.

The oil plants are the linseed, safflower, sesame, castor, sirson (a kind of mustard seed), mohwa, ambarree, and hirdee, which are all abundant, but oil is only made from the five first.

Metals.

There are no metals produced, except iron. The ore is found in the Lanjhee district, at Oomeer, in Deogurh above the Ghats, in Chanda, and in most of the hilly parts of the country. Very small quantities of gold-dust are procurable in the Jonk river, near Sonakhan, in Chutteesgurh, and in two rivers of Lanjhee. A cast called Sonejurrees, in Lanjhee, gain a poor livlihood by collecting the sand, which they wash, and then separating the gold from the finest particles, by means of quicksilver.

Minerals.

The diamond mines of Wyragurh were, formerly, celebrated, though now they do not yield sufficient returns to render them worth working. The diamonds were found in a yellowish earth, which forms small hills in the vicinity of Wyragurh. The spots are still distinguishable, where they have been dug up. At Donguree, Pallorah, and Parseonee, are found marbles capable of receiving a fine polish, and at Koraree, near Nagpore, a magnesian marble, much used in building. Talc is found also, in different parts of the country, and red ochre, dug out of the Lanjhee hills, is exported in considerable quantities. Lime-stone is plentiful; but good clay for making bricks is scarce.

Other productions.

The other productions are cotton, sugar-cane, hemp, tobacco, gunja, opium,

opium, arrow-root, the betle-leaf, bees-wax, and a great deal of the coarse silk, called tuser.

Wild animals.

Of wild animals, I have not observed any species peculiar to the country.

Horses, Cattle, and Sheep.

Few good horses are now bred in the country, and excepting in the Rajah's stud, and those of the principal Mahratta Chiefs, breeding establishments were never numerous. Many parts of the country are, indeed, considered unfavourable to that animal. The foreign importations from Hindoostan and the Deckan, have long ceased, though a few Arabs are brought for the British cantonments. The Rajah of Berar was formerly famed for a breed of horses, of which few now remain. Bullocks, cows, and buffaloes, are reared; the former in great numbers in Chutteesgurh, but they are small and often swept away by periodical distempers. They are also raised in the Wyne Gunga district, but not a fourth of the number required for the purposes of agriculture. The deficiency was formerly supplied from Chutteesgurh, of which the cattle, though small, answer well for the rice cultivation, but recourse is now had to more distant parts. Mundilla, and even Sohagepore and Belharee, to the northward, are called upon to replace the scarcity, and the Company's grazing district of Dongertaul is a nearer, but inadequate source of supply. Buffaloes, though large, fine, and indigenous to the country, are not numerous, but are, together with the large kinds of bullocks, brought from Berar, and sold at Hingunghaut. The country above the Ghauts was, formerly, noted for the number of herds of cattle grazing on its surface, but they have long disappeared, and everywhere, partly from the destruction of war, and partly from the great demands of increasing cultivation, cattle are nearly doubled in price since 1817.

Sheep

Sheep are reared in great numbers in the Pergunnahs of Pownee, Oomeer, and Kooee, west of the Wyne Gunga. In Chuttees gurh, a woolly and short-legged breed are reared, but not in abundance. In Chanda, both sheep and goats are in considerable numbers, but chiefly valued for their wool and manure. Goats are found, more or less, in every village, as are pigs; but they are generally consumed where they are reared.

Climate and seasons

There are three well-marked seasons in this part of India, viz. the cold, hot, and rainy. The decidedly cold months are November, December, and January; February is mild and pleasant; March becomes more warm, and the hot winds blow in April, May, and until the first general fall of rain in June; but for some time after, the air is close and sultry. In July, August, and September, excepting during the rain, the air is clear and comfortable to the feelings. In October, there is a similar state to that of June, viz. close and sultry. In the hot season, Nagpore has a most decided advantage over many other stations, inasmuch as the nights are cool and pleasant, with very few exceptions.

In the cold season, the thermometer falls very low, and in the small tanks on the table land, elevated about two thousand feet above the sea, to the north of Nagpore, ice is frequently obtained. On the same, or nearly the same level with Nagpore, a few marches to the eastward, the thermometer has been observed, at sun-rise, below the freezing point, with the grass and stumps of trees covered with hoar frost.

Rain occasionally falls, during every month of the year, but excepting the regular monsoon of June, July, August, and September, it is very partial, and sometimes only a single shower. Although the N. E. monsoon influences the winds, it does not bring much rain. Hail-storms are usual

usual in January and February, when they frequently do much damage to the crops.

Endemic disease.

Throughout the whole of the Nagpore territory, the months of September, October, and November appear to be those in which natives, as well as Europeans, suffer most from disease; but where there is much jungle, disease occurs even at much later periods after the rains. The character of the disease is of one general nature, and truly endemic, varying in severity from a simple intermittent fever, to a remittent of the most violent type. We must look for the source of this to the jungle and soil. The former covers large tracts of country, and in many places is almost impenetrable. The latter is chiefly a black heavy loam, swelling from the absorption of moisture, and when dry, exposing large cracks or crevices, giving free exit to the effluvia from decomposed vegetable matter, a generally acknowledged cause of similar endemics in all parts of the world.

SECTION SECOND.

POPULATION AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION

OF THE

INHABITANTS.

UNDER the Marhatta Government, there existed a kind of ground-work for a census, in most of the districts, in what is called the Khana Shoomaree, or annual enumeration of the houses of each district, with a specification of the casts and professions of each householder, and other particulars, made by the Government officers, for the purpose of adjusting the Pandree dues of Government. A census which was ordered by the Resident in 1819, was only an extension of this plan, and made through the Purgunnah officers and Putels of villages, each of whom is fully competent to give an actual muster of all the inhabitants of his village. There appeared no reluctance to furnish this information anywhere, but in Chutteesgurh, where the jealousy of the people, regarding their women, and other prejudices about the unluckiness of a census, presented some obstacles, to which it was thought advisable to give way, and, accordingly, after

Population returns.

after the first enumeration of the inhabitants that was made, the subject was not followed up. In some of the other districts, too, information to the full extent required has not, from various causes, been furnished; but there is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the details as far as they go.

The returns from the city of Nagpore were procured by the Superintendent of Police, through the writers of the different companies of the Police corps, who were instructed to go to each house of the district, or quarter, of which their respective companies had charge, and to ascertain the necessary particulars from the heads of families. Some of the Mooselman people of rank shewed reluctance to answer such enquiries; but the census is thought to be generally correct, and every precaution was used to prevent any material errors.

Amount of population.

According to the census of 1820-21, the population of the several districts and the city stood thus:

Deogurh below the Ghauts,....	4,84,657
Wyne Gunga districts,.....	6,60,040
Chutteesgurh,.....	5,71,915
Chanda,.....	2,79,555
Deogurh above the Ghauts,....	1,07,506
City of Nagpore,.....	1,11,231
Total,....	2,214,904

Assuming that the rate of increase in Chutteesgurh, (where no subsequent census was taken) was the same as in other parts of the country the population, according to the census of 1825, will stand thus:

Deogurh

Deogurh below the Ghats....	5,72,792	in 1890	towns and villages.
Wyne Gunga districts,.....	6,90,770	in 2111	ditto.
Chutteesgurh,.....	6,39,603	in 4434	ditto.
Chanda,.....	3,06,996	in 1223	ditto.
Deogurh above the Ghats....	1,45,363	in 1241	ditto.
City of Nagpore and suburbs,	1,15,228		
Total,....	2,470,752		

being an increase of 2,55,848 in the course of five years.

Tables of births and deaths have been kept in the Wyne Gunga district for the last four, and in Deogurh below the Ghats, for the last two years. They give the following results: Births and Deaths.

Wyne Gunga district in 1231.

Total population, 6,60,040.

Births, 25,436. Deaths, 14,015,

being as one hundred to fifty-five, nearly.

The births are one in twenty-six, nearly, and the deaths one in forty-seven, nearly.

The excess of births above the deaths, is 11,421, and the proportion of excess of births above the deaths, to the whole of the living, nearly one to fifty-eight, so that, at this rate, the population would double in about forty years.

In 1232.

In 1832.

Total Population, 6,71,117.

Births, 27,692. Deaths, 15,564,

being as one hundred to fifty-six, nearly. The births are one in twenty-four, nearly—the deaths one in forty-three, nearly.

The excess of births above the deaths, is 12,128, and the proportion of excess of births above the deaths, to the whole of the living, nearly one to fifty-five; consequently, the period of doubling is about thirty-eight years and a half.

In 1233.

Total population of the Wyne Gunga and Deogurh districts, 12,63,562.

The births, 47,896. The deaths, 23,103.

The births being to the deaths, as one hundred to fifty and a half, nearly. The births are about one in twenty-nine and a half: the deaths are one in fifty-three and a half.

The excess of births above the deaths, is 18,873; the proportion of the excess to the whole of the living, being nearly one to sixty-five, the population would double in forty-five years.

In 1234.

Total population of the Wyne Gunga, and Deogurh districts, 12,63,562.

Births, 47,896. Deaths, 29,946.

The births to the deaths are one hundred to sixty-two and a half, nearly. The births, one in twenty-six. The deaths, one in forty-two. Excess of births above the deaths, 17,950; the proportion of this excess to the whole of the living being, as one to seventy; at this rate, the population would double in about forty-eight years.

The

The above calculations, although not embracing a sufficiently long period to admit of general conclusions being drawn from them, will, probably, be considered as shewing satisfactorily that, at present, the population is rapidly increasing; and that the average mortality is low, not exceeding that of the agricultural parts of England.

Number of people to a square mile.

As the whole of the country has not been surveyed, the means of estimating the number of people to a square mile, does not exist; it is, however, no doubt, very low, as in Deogurh below the Ghats, in extent six-thousand square miles, and with the exception of part of the Wyne Gunga district, by far the best peopled part of the country, there are, by the last census, only ninety-five and a half to the square mile, or, including the city of Nagpore, one hundred and fourteen and two-thirds.

How classed.

The total population, amounting to 24,70,766, may be thus classed:

Moosulmans,.....	58,368.
Gonds,.....	2,91,603.
Hindoos of various casts,.....	21,20,795
Total....	24,70,766

The Moosulmans being to the whole population as 2.36 to 100, and the Gonds as 11.8 to 100.

Languages.

As a general clue to the probable origin of the motley population which is scattered over the Nagpore territories, a short statement of the languages which prevail in the different provinces, into which it is divided, may be premised.

The Gondee language may be said to be spoken, more or less, with

with some trifling variations of words and phrases, throughout the whole of the present dominions of the Nagpore Government. It has no written character. The Gonds, in the Khalsa lands of Deogurh above the Ghats, constitute more than one-fourth of the whole population; but their numbers have not been ascertained in the Zemindaries. In Deogurh below the Ghats, they are not more than a twelfth; in the Wyne Gunga districts, a seventh; in Chanda, a fourteenth; and in Chutteesgurh, about one-twenty-fifth of the whole population; but there are many more in the dependencies both of Chutteesgurh and Chanda.

Generally, the languages prevailing in the above districts are, in Deogurh above the Ghats, a mixture of the Rangree, or Hindee, of Malwa, and the Marhatta, with the Gondee and Guolee dialects. The two former are common to the whole population, whilst the Gondee and Guolee are familiar only to the peculiar tribe to which either belongs, viz. Guolees and Gonds.

In Deogurh below the Ghats, the Marhatta is the prevalent language. Besides Gondee, Telinga is also spoken by some tribes of artizans; and there are several other petty tribes which have distinct dialects.

In the Wyne Gunga district, the most common language is Marhatta. The Guolees speak a dialect of Canarese; the Puwars and Lodees, Hindee; and there are a few other varieties of dialect.

In the Chanda district, the Marhatta and Telinga languages seem to be spoken by the people, in nearly equal proportion.

The primitive inhabitants of Chutteesgurh, speak either Gondee or Chutteesgurhee, which is a mixture of Hindoostanee and Gondee. To the

eastward, towards Sumbhulpore, some of the inhabitants speak Ooriya. On Kuronde, the Koand language is spoken, which Colonel Agnew understands to be a mixture of the Gond and Ooriya dialects. The Pardeea and Binderwa tribes, hereafter to be mentioned, speak dialects peculiar to themselves. Besides these, Hindoostanee, Marhatta, and Telinga, have been introduced by the numerous settlers from other parts of India.

The Marhatta is, of course, the language of the city and court of Nagpore, and of all the functionaries of Government throughout the country.

General description of the Inhabitants.

The districts about the capital being those most advanced in civilization and opulence, and the information respecting them being more full and satisfactory than that which has been obtained form the others, it may be sufficient to take these districts as a specimen of the whole country, and to confine the principal details of the circumstances of the population to them, where no marked difference presents itself for observation in other quarters.

Numbers and casts of each tribe and profession.

It appears, from Tables furnished by Captain Gordon, in 1820-21, that the Hindoo population in the Nagpore district, is divided into one hundred and fourteen principal casts, exercising sixty-two professions, or, reckoning Moosulmans and outcasts, that the whole population is divided into one hundred and nineteen casts, exercising sixty-eight different professions. The Moosulman population is to the Hindoo, including Gonds and outcasts, as one to thirty-four. The Gonds are as one to twelve of the whole population.

The total male population is 2,49,844, of which the employed persons are 140,230, and those without any fixed employment 109,230.

This last class consists of persons above fifty,.....11,549
Ditto, between sixteen and fifty,.....17,989
Ditto, under sixteen,.....80,077

In this list of unemployed persons are included, besides the old men and children of all families who are, or are not employed, the pensioners of Government, individuals who possess the means of living without exercising any particular trade, with a numerous class of persons who are too idle to work, and who live on their relations, or on the public. Even those who have no fixed employment, are not pushed for subsistence in years of common plenty, and find occupation in many ways. Under this last head are included, the numerous casts of common Coolees, and day laborers of every description, who are not hired for fixed periods, and whose employment varies with the season of the year.

General distribution of Occupations.

Although there are fixed occupations, strictly speaking, appropriate to each cast, yet a proportion of almost every cast exercises professions, which are not those of the tribe to which they belong.

The Bramins consist of nine divisions, and 12,088 males: many of them are cultivators, writers, merchants, sahookars, and even soldiers; but a large proportion of them subsists upon charity.

The agricultural casts are thirteen, and the males amount to 111,391. There are also 18,965 individuals of other casts engaged in cultivation, under the heads of Zemindars, Putels, Kirsans, or cultivators, and Wursalas, or farm servants, making the grand total of the male agricultural persons 130,356, which is more than the half of the total male population. Of this number, again, 128,845, are Hindoos. The number of individuals of the agricultural casts employed in foreign occupations,

is

is only 6,405, and the unemployed portion, composed as above explained, 51,450.

The total number of persons, of all descriptions, paying land rent to Government, is 42,068, and the total of farm servants of all kinds, is 30,428. Next to the thirteen casts of cultivators, the Bramins, Gonds, and Moosulmans, furnish the greatest number to that profession ; but out of the one hundred and nineteen casts into which the whole population is divided, there are not above thirty, whose aggregate number is only one thousand and nine souls, who do not engage in agriculture.

The manufacturers, mechanics, and artizans compose twenty-nine casts, including two of outcasts, Chumars and Mhars, and amount to 77,668 males. Many of these casts exercise foreign occupations, but with one or two exceptions, no persons of other casts will exercise theirs.

There are fourteen casts, containing 4,881 males, who are principally employed as merchants, bankers or shop-keepers. A considerable number of Bramins, Moosulmans, and of the cultivating casts, are also found engaged in trading and banking concerns.

The Coolees, or common working casts, are sixteen, amounting to 21,353 males. The Gonds alone amounting to 18,629, are included in this number ; and sixteen other casts, as well as three divisions of outcasts, engage in these occupations. The Gonds are the best farm servants next to the Koonbees. Many of them are cultivators, and Bhoomuks of villages.

Of the mendicant tribes, amounting to 3,867, the most numerous are the Gosaeens and Bhats.

There

There are twelve miscellaneous casts, with a population of 9,025 males. Of these the Guolees and Gowarees are herdsmen and shepherds; the Gooroos are servants of temples, and the Vidoors are employed as scribes and school-masters.

The Moosulmans are usually employed as Seebundees, and many of them are retained on low wages by Sahookars, shopkeepers, Zemindars, and Putels, to look after their property—a considerable number of them are cultivators, and one sect, the Pinjarrahs, are cotton carders.

Provinces from which the different casts are supposed to have proceeded.

The greater number of the casts trace their origin to different parts of Berar and the Dekhan, and it appears from their traditions, that fifty-three casts are from Berar, twenty-three from Hindoostan, twelve from Tilingana; that nineteen are itinerant, and that three casts, the Bramins, Moosulmans, and Vidoors, are from several parts of India indiscriminately.

The Gonds.

The Gonds seem to bear the characters of an aboriginal people, distinct from the Hindoos, though borrowing from them many of their institutions and practices. Their own religion is of the rudest cast. The chief object of their worship, called Phurseepen, is represented by a small spear-head of iron, carefully preserved in particular trees, and his rites can only be performed in the jungles and forests.

The rest of their idols are of a similar kind, their originals generally possessing those attributes, whether of threatening or protecting power, most consonant to the hopes and fears of wild and uncivilized beings, alternately the prey of one another and of wild beasts. To these they offer sacrifices of hogs, goats, fowls, and a variety of other things, with many fantastic rites; even human sacrifices are not unknown, and were common formerly.

They

They feast on the meat, and other offerings; and hard drinking is the general accompaniment of all their rites, whether of a purely religious natature, or of the mixed kind, as marriages, births, and funerals. The women are as unrestrained in this vice, as the men, and all join in dances and songs, rendered obstreperous and indecent by the state of inebriety in which they are usually performed. To their original divinities they have added several of the Hindoo stock, but their worship of them is in their own forms.

The Gonds are particularly superstitious and attentive to omens, signs, and days. The practice of sorcery and witchcraft is also very general amongst them, and their supposed powers in these arts are constantly resorted to by their Hindoo neighbors.

The Gonds are allowed, in this quarter, to class themselves under the second cast of Hindoos. This is a stretch of complaisance in the Marhatta officers, owing, probably, to the country having been so long under Rajahs of the Gond tribe. They, however, term themselves Coeetoor (a corruption of Khutriya); the Rajahs claim descent from the Pandoos, and in their family rites, though they are Mahommedans, at marriages and births, they interweave some observances peculiar to the Rajpoots, with those of the Gonds and Mahommedans.

In their own community, they class themselves under a variety of divisions and subdivisions. The former are partly local, and partly referable to differences in dialect. According to them, there is the Gurra Gond, who inhabits Gurra Mundilla and Bhopaul; the Raj Gond of Geogurh; the Manjee Gond of Bustar; the Khuttolee Gond of the Khullotee, or lowlands, east and west of the Lanjee hills; the Jarria Gond of Chanda; the Marree Gond of Telingana and Bustar; and the Koorkoo Gond of the

Mahadeo hills. The Manjee, Marree, and Koorkoo Gonds, speak dialects distinct from that which is common to the rest; of the two former, no specimens have been procured, but the Koorkoo dialect is found to resemble that spoken by the Lurka Koles, on the frontier of Singbhoom.

The different tribes divide themselves, like their Hindoo neighbours, into twelve and a half casts; and these, again, branch out into subdivisions, denominated according to the number of their Penates, or household gods. They range from two to twelve deos, and the rules of prohibited marriage, and eating and drinking together, are apparently as complicated as those of the Hindoos. The Gonds, without distinction, eat animal flesh, even that of the cow, and they vie with the outcast Hindoos in their eagerness after carrion.

The Gondee language contains, amongst its elementary words, several of Telinga and Tamul origin. The same is to be observed in the Koorkoo, which, however, as far as it has been examined, has a larger proportion of the latter. Mr. Ellis, in a Dissertation prefixed to Campbell's Telinga Grammar, remarks a similar coincidence in the specimens of the dialect of the Rajmahl hill tribes; and a small number of the common words in the dialect of the Ramoossees, near Poona, which were obtained some time ago, contained several Telinga ones.

The Gonds are mentioned in the historical poems of the Hindoos, as being a powerful nation, or tribe, in early times. May they not have been one of the primitive people of India, conquered by the Hindoos? and the remnant driven into the hills and forests?

The country over which they are now scattered, seems to have been subject to different Hindoo sovereigns at the time of the Moosulman invasion

invasion of the Deckan. The great Marhatta dynasty of Deogurh, or Duolutabad, is believed to have extended beyond Berar, east to the Wyne Gunga, and north to the Nerbuddah, including Kandeish and the whole of the western districts of Mooltye, Beitool, &c., lately acquired by the Company from the state of Nagpore. To the north and east of this empire, was the kingdom of Gurra, which on the north, stretched over Deogurh above the Ghauts, the Company's eastern districts, and the valley of the Nerbudda, and beyond that river to Bundelcund and Malwa; and on the east, over the districts east of the Wyne Gunga, and probably Chutteesgurh. To the south was the kingdom of Telingana, including Chanda and the south-west parts of Chutteesgurh, with Bustar. Telingana and the Marhatta empire of Deogurh were early dismembered, and formed into the Bhaminee sovereignty. Gurra was not subdued until the reign of Akber. The Mahommedan Princes of the Dekhan carried their dominion over most of the country between the Wurda and Wyne Gunga, and close upon the present western boundary of Deogurh above the Ghauts. Kherla, near Beitool, which was also subdued by them, seems to have been the seat of a Hindoo Prince, probably a remnant of the Marhatta family of Deogurh; and the Mahommedan Princes of Malwa and Kandeish had pressed in, upon the Gurra kingdom, on the side of Bhopaul and the valley of the Nerbudda, before its conquest by Akber. A period, however, of almost total darkness, follows the slight mention of these circumstances in the Mahommedan annals, and the chasm is ill supplied by tradition.

In Aurungzebe's time, we find three Gond Princes, of considerable power, established in Mundilla, Deogurh, and Chanda, and the amount of tribute in cash, jewels, and elephants taken from the two latter, if the Moosulman historian of the Dekkan, Khafee Khan, is to be believed, indicates a much higher degree of opulence than can well be supposed to have been possessed by the petty chief of Deogurh, at least.

Tradition

Tradition says, that most of the country of Deogurh, above and below the Ghauts, after being ruined and devastated by some great calamity, had been overrun and conquered by tribes of Gowlees. Ferishta, indeed, mentions As-a-Aher, the Gowlee chief and founder of Asseergurh, as having rule over Gondwanah, but how acquired, is not hinted at. Jatba, a Gond, subverted their power above the Ghauts, and his descendant, Bukht Boolund, carried his arms south beyond Nagpore, and made conquests and acquisitions both from Mundilla and Chanda.

The Rajahship of Mundilla also became the property of a Gond dynasty, by some unexplained revolution, and the reigning family at Chanda, termed Bulhur Sahee, probably a remnant of the Warunkal race of Princes, were supplanted by successors of the Gond tribe.

But this digression is probably out of place in this report. It need, therefore, only be added respecting the Gonds, that they have every where a distinct physiognomy, which marks them from other tribes. They have usually broad and rather flat noses and thick lips, with not unfrequently curly hair, when young. There is a great difference, as might naturally be expected, in general size and strength, between the wilder and poorer tribes in the hills and jungles, and those who inhabit the plains. The latter are tall, well formed, stout, and sometimes even handsome and fair. As observed above, they are good agricultural servants, and their labor is worth nearly double that of the other classes. They are sincere, faithful and intelligent: they are less mendacious than their neighbours, Hindoo or Mahommedan, every where; and since our administration, we have had no reason to pronounce even the mildest of them, with whom Europeans have had direct intercourse, insensible to good treatment, or unwilling to quit habits of plunder and rapine, imposed upon them by poverty and oppression, for more regular and creditable modes of life.

There are, it is true, some of the rude tribes inhabiting the forests of Bustar and Kuronde, who are as wild and untameable as any savages that have been discovered elsewhere; and it is amongst these chiefly that horrid sacrifices of human beings are now alone to be found. The Marhattas have the merit of having put a stop to them generally, as far as their direct authority reached, and the Zemindars of Bustar and Kuronde have been induced by us to make exertions to suppress them in their territories. It is to be feared, however, that this may not yet have been altogether accomplished.

Marees

The wildest of these Gonds are the Marees. They generally go in a state of complete nudity, and even their women have no covering, but aprons of leaves. Their food is generally roots, greens, and the tender sprigs of the bamboo. They pay but a nominal obedience to the Bustar Rajah, reject all intercourse with other tribes, and hunt for strangers at stated times, to sacrifice to their gods.

Human Sacrifices

Human sacrifices to Dunteshwuree Devee, in Bustar, prevailed until lately, but these being public, under the authority of the Rajah, have been, it is to be hoped, put down entirely. Culprits and prisoners made during war, and sometimes innocent persons, were sacrificed at the festivals of this sanguinary goddess, and it was not an unfrequent mode of punishment by the Gond chiefs, to direct an offender to be taken to pay his devotions before some favored idol, and to put him to death at the moment he prostrated himself before it.

Koands

In Kuronde, the inhabitants called Koands, of some of the subordinate and most inaccessible Zemindarees, were in the habit of putting to death yearly several human victims, whose reeking bodies were torn into a thousand fragments, for the purpose of being buried in the fields, as the

the necessary condition of obtaining good returns. The Rajah of Kuronde has done all in his power to put a stop to this shocking practice, but his authority is imperfect, particularly over his Koand subjects, who

Koands

inhabit the most unproductive and inaccessible parts of the country. Yet the Koands are stated, by Colonel Agnew, to be distinguished from the wild inhabitants of other jungles, by the high character they are reputed to possess for veracity and fidelity. Their word, it is said, may be wholly relied on, and they will never desert those to whom they have promised to adhere, or betray those they have engaged to protect.

Binderwas

There are two other very wild tribes found in the hills north-east of Chutteesgurh. The Binderwas are one of them. They reside in the hilly and woody country near Ruttunpore, particularly in the Koorbah and Sirgoojah hills, but they are so seldom seen by the other inhabitants of the country, that there is much reason to doubt the truth of all that is reported respecting them. They are, however, said to have scarcely any religion. They go entirely naked, are armed with bows and arrows, never build any huts, or seek other shelter than that afforded by the jungles—feed principally on the Mohwah and Taindoo fruits, furnished by the jungles, but sometimes cultivate small quantities of the coarse grains; are said to destroy their relations when too old to move about, and to eat their flesh when a great entertainment takes place, to which all the family is invited. Their enemies and the travellers they way-lay, they are also said to eat. It is doubtful whether they have the ceremony of marriage.

Pardeeas

The Pardeeas found in the same quarter, are another tribe, less wild than the Binderwas. They come occasionally into the villages to sell wood, tatties and jungle fruits, and are not accused of being cannibals. They and the Binderwas have dialects peculiar to themselves, which are not understood by the other inhabitants of the country.

We will now revert to the more civilized inhabitants of the cultivated districts about Nagpore.

The Bramins

The oldest Bramin inhabitants of Deogurh are the Narbuds, Malwees, Bhagorees, and Cherukhs. All the Bramin Wuttundars belong to some of these classes, who, like the other casts, trace their origin to different provinces of India. They have no particular account, however, of the period of their settlement here, though it seems to have been long before the Marhatta conquest. The Rigvedees, and the other Bramin tribes, are supposed to have found their way here during the Government of Bukht Boolund, and chiefly after the Marhatta conquest. The classes of Bramins, in the other parts of the Rajah's territories, are of the some origin as the above. A small portion of those in Chanda only, are of Telinga origin. In Chutteesgurh are some families from Tirhoot. The Bramins of Chutteesgurh are said to have departed from the strictness of the observances required by the Shasters. They eat fish and animal food, and are, consequently, looked upon with great contempt by their more precise brethren.

Bukht Boolund's visit to Delhi, mentioned in the historical section, and his connections with the Moghuls, induced many of the better classes to resort hither, both from Hindoostan and the Dekhan. Many of them, especially Bramins, found employment as officers of revenue and finance, and others, as Zemindars, Putels and cultivators. The circumstance of an individual holding a situation of trust or power, naturally drew many of his brethren to the spot. Bhijya Raj Mull, a Kaeeth, was the Dewan of Bukht Boolund, and many of the mercantile classes settled in Deogurh, during his administration, particularly Kaeeths, Kasts, and Kirars. The Marwarees, Aggerwallas, and Lingaits followed the Marhattas.

All

The thirteen casts of Kirsans, or cultivators.

All the cultivating classes were established in Deogurh previously to the Marhatta conquest. The four classes of Kshutriya cultivators came originally from Hindoostan during the reign of Bukht Boolund. The most numerous of these classes, are Lodees, great numbers of whom are settled in the districts on the Wyne Gunga. Another class, the Powars, are also established in the same quarter. They say their ancestors were expelled from Dhar, in Malwa, in the reign of Aurengzebe.

Another class of cultivators, the Bunjaras, or Wunjaras, date their arrival in the country from Hindoostan in Bukht Boolund's time. The Rugwa tribe of cultivators also appear to have come from Hindoostan, as well as the Cohera Koonbees, who cultivate the sugar cane in the Wyne Gunga districts. Some divisions of the Tellees, or oilmen, are from Hindoostan, and some from the Dekhan. The Puhars say, they came from Berar and Telingana.

The greatest portion, however, of the agricultural population of these districts, is composed of the eight remaining tribes, who exceed in number the five first-mentioned tribes in the proportion of thirty-five to one. One of these eight tribes, the Jharee Koonbees,* constitute more than one half of the whole thirteen tribes. They are considered as the oldest settlers, and are of Marhatta origin. They suppose, that their progenitors came from the the country about Poona and Kandeish, and from different parts of Berar, at a very early period. It may be here observed, that the term Koonbee is, in its widest signification, applied to all the thirteen classes of cultivators, but amongst the people themselves, it is only applied to the Jharee Koonbees, and to one or two other casts.

The

* By Jharee Koonbees, is meant Koonbees of the woods or jungles.

The Jharee Koonbees are subdivided into twelve inferior tribes, and they not only compose the main body of the agricultural population, but they are considered the most respectable of the whole. They all speak Marhatta, and seldom Hindee. They more nearly resemble each other in colour, dress, and physical appearance, than any of the other tribes, and there is said to be a greater uniformity in their religious and civil usages.

Those termed Marhatta Koonbees, are said to be descendants of Marhatta horsemen, servants, and adventurers, of all descriptions, who accompanied the first Raghojee from Berar. They all properly belong to some of the tribes of Jharee Koonbees, consider themselves as the genuine Marhattas, because many of them came from Maharashtra at comparatively recent periods, whilst the former tribes have been so long settled in Deogurh, that their connexion with their original country is more obscure. The old cultivators usually designate the Marhatta Koonbees, by the name of Dekhunee and Deshkur.*

The term Marhatta, though applied by other tribes to the inhabitants of Maharashtra, in general, seems amongst the Marhattas themselves, to be limited to a few distinct classes only. The Jharee and Marhatta Koonbees, are considered the genuine Marhattas by all the other classes; besides these, the term is also more particularly applied to the numerous tribes or families from whom the most celebrated Marhatta leaders have sprung. The number of these families is, I believe, ninety-six, and the best known in Deogurh, are the Ghautkas, Moreeas, Baghools, Salonkas, Nimbalkurs, Ghorpooras, Bhoslahs; and the six tribes, namely, the Sirkeeas,

* The country about Poona is usually termed, emphatically, the Desh, or Native Land of the Marhattas.

keeas, Goojurs, Mohtias, Ghautkas, Mahariks, and Patunkers, with whom the latter cast intermarry. All these tribes consider themselves as Kshutriyas, and will eat together, though they do not always intermarry.

Some of the Malee caste of cultivators are termed Jharee Malees, and others are considered to be new comers. The Malee class are both agriculturists and gardeners; the Barees cultivate and sell the betel leaf, and are the only class who rear that plant. The Telees are of various classes, generally designated by the oil plant they cultivate, as the Castor oil, or Sesame Telees, or by the number of bullocks they yoke in their mills, or as expressing the oil in hand mills. The Telees, Malees, and Alkerees, or cultivators of the Al, or Morinda plant, are the least respectable of the cultivating classes. All these different classes of cultivators are found in the other provinces, and the Koonbees generally form the majority of the Ryots, excepting in Chutteesgurh, where the casts of Gonds, Beejwars, Cowers, and Hulbahs, the two latter of which are peculiar to that province, are the principal agriculturists. The other casts of Telees, Malees, &c., do not differ in Chutteesgurh from those eleswhere in these territories.

Mechanics. Almost all the common classes of artizans and manufacturers were established in Deogurh, previously to the Marhatta conquest; in fact, nearly all the Vaisyas and Sudras. The most skilful mechanics and masons were brought by the Marhattas, and they appear to have been collected from Putten, Aurungabad, Boorhanpore, and different parts of the Dekhan, by wealthy individuals, by whom they were employed in constructing temples and comfortable habitations. A few manufacturers of the finer cloths and stuffs, for native dresses, have been also encouraged to settle, but their fabrics have made little head against the superior goods imported from Hindoostan and the Dekhan. Either the whole or greater proportion

portion of one of the tribes of outcasts, the Maungs, are said to have accompanied the troops of the first Raghojee from Berar, as horse-keepers, and in other menial occupations: no peculiarities are known to exist in the tribes of artizans, with the exception of one instance. In Chutteesgurh, amongst the Moosulmans, there is a class which makes bangles and die cloths. They are generally distinguished by the appellation of Toorkarees, and are said to worship the Hindoo idols, and to besmear their houses with cow-dung in the manner of that cast. The women, in particular, observe all the Hindoo superstitions, and have abandoned their own faith.

Outcasts.

The outcasts comprize the four divisions of Muhars or Dhers, Chumars, Maungs, and Bhungees. The Muhars outnumber the other casts, in the proportion of eight to one. Many of the Dhers are weavers. In Chutteesgurh, besides the above, may be enumerated Khundairs, Gondas, Punkas, and Gussecahs, as classes of outcasts, and in Chanda, the Madgee and Katick.

Subdivisions into Kools.

Every class is, primarily, divided into the odd number of twelve and a half branches, each of which is subdivided into Kools. Some reckon one hundred or two hundred Kools, each containing a certain number of families. No persons can intermarry into their own Kools, each of which has its distinctive appellation, which is borne by all the members in addition to their own names.

In such a number of divisions and subdivisions of cast, and the distinctions they generate, few people can be expected to know even those of their own immediate concern, with any minuteness. This want is supplied by genealogists, who, under the name of Pooshtakas, Gooroos, and Bhauts, are to be found in many of the tribes. These genealogists keep registers

registers of the Kools in each cast, and of the Gotru, or pedigree of each; some knowledge of which is essential for the regulation of intermarriages in the cast. They also pay periodical visits to its members, who consult them about their marriages, at which time they take cognizance of all deviations from the established usage of cast in this particular.

Similar subdivisions, into twelve and a half casts, and into Kools, subsist amongst the Gonds and outcasts, and they have the same variety of prohibitions respecting intermarriage, &c. The Gonds have their bards, called Ojahs, who keep their pedigrees, and sing the exploits of their Rajahs; and the Muhars, amongst the outcasts, have also their class of genealogists.

The Gaolees.

The terms Gaolee and Aheer, are indiscriminately applied to the whole class of cow-herds, the greater number of whom trace their origin to Hindoostan. Three tribes only are from Telingana, and two call themselves Marhatta Gaolees. Almost all of them claim a high descent, and pretend to trace their pedigree, through petty Rajahs, to some of the gods.

Although the Gaolee are sometimes found settled in the country as Putels, Zemindars, and cultivators, they are generally a pastoral and wandering race. They encamp in the jungles, seldom visiting the villages, except to sell their cattle or dispose of the produce of the dairy. They are most numerous in the jungles about Ramtek, and the small Talook of Kunnoorhetee, in that neighborhood, is almost exclusively occupied by them. They are also found in Ambagurh and Lanjhee.

The mode of life of the Kunnoorhetee Gaolees is singular, and is thus described by Captain A. Gordon: "They remain only during the rains

rains in their villages in the jungles. Soon after the termination of the rainy season, when the grass begins to get scarce in this part of the country, they drive away thir flocks to the rich pastures of Mundilla, on which they feed their flocks until the end of the hot weather, when they return to Kunnoorhetee. They pay a small tax in Mundilla, for Ranwa, or the right of pasturage, amounting to about six rupees on the hundred head of cattle. The Gaolees, who live in these sequestered spots, have great simplicity in their appearance and manners; but, like all the wandering tribes, they are addicted to petty theft, and particularly to cattle-stealing. Many of them are, however, honest, and take pride in the exploits and reputation of their ancient Rajahs, whose praises are sung by the bards, and listened to with delight by all classes of Kirsans. The Gaolees are fair and robust in their form. They all speak Marhatta in their intercourse with the other casts, but amongst themselves they are said to use the vernacular dialect of that part of India from which they originally emigrated."

Golurs and Holours

The Golurs and Holurs appear to be divisions of the same tribe. Their general name is Hutker, which is derived from the Hutkerwaree, a district on the banks of the Godavery, from which the tribe is said to have last emigrated. They are most numerous in the districts to the eastward of Nagpore, and have their habitations chiefly in the *Puttar*, or stony portion of Ambagurh, and in the jungles about Ramplee and Sahangurhee. The common tradition amongst them is, that about two thousand of them quitted their seats on the Godavery, in consequence of some dispute in the cast, and came to Deogurh in the reign of Bukht Boolund, who received them favorably, and gave grants of land to them and their Naik, or hereditary chief, which they still hold. The condition on which these grants were given was, their assisting to protect the districts were they were stationed, from robberies. This tribe, like the Gaolees, are a pastoral people,

and chiefly subsist by their cattle and the produce of the dairy. They, however, cultivate a little land near the villages which they occupy in the rains. They are a thieving plundering tribe, but perfectly under the control of their Naiks, and have never been troublesome when the latter have been conciliated. They speak the Canarese language, but have no account of their original expatriation.

Kunjers.

The Kunjers are a tribe who follow various occupations, such as hiring out cattle for the carriage of grain, rearing asses, reparing looms or hand-mills, and making coarse canvas and ropes; but robbery and theft is common to the whole. The Kunjers have their hamlets chiefly in the jungles between Nagpore and the Wurda, where they remain during the rains, but they are often moving about, carrying with them on asses, their huts, which are composed of sticks and thin grass screens. There is no tribe so much addicted to cattle-stealing and highway robbery as the Kunjers, and all attempts to reclaim them by grants of waste land, and advances of cash to induce them to cultivate, have hitherto failed. Their constant depredations have caused many of them to be banished. Their whole tribe does not amount to more than two hundred persons. They speak the Rangree, or Malwa dialect of Hindee.

Kykarees.

The Kykarees, who are found in every district, are professional thieves, openly avowing their dependance on predatory occupations for subsistence. They are particularly dexterous in digging through the walls of houses, and secret pilfering. They also make mats and baskets, repair hand-mills, and hire out asses to the lower casts. Their dialect is a mixture of Marhatta and Telinga. Their women are fortune-tellers, and much consulted by all the casts.

The amount of the Military population.

The fixed military population is inconsiderable. It almost entirely consists

consists of Moosulmans and Rajpoots, who, both together, do not amount in Deogurh, to eight thousand males of all ages, and in the other quarters, are quite insignificant in numbers. Many individuals belonging to the other classes, have no objection to serve as soldiers, especially Bramins and Marhatta Koonbees, but Moosulmans and Rajpoots are the only tribes who chiefly look to the military life as a regular profession. The Gonds, although ready, on the slightest encouragement, to unite with bands of free-booters in plundering the open villages and committing gang robberies, are destitute of courage, and never fail to fly on the appearance of pursuit, or danger. The only individuals amongst them who have any pretensions to the name of soldiers, are the petty Mookassas, scattered about the jungles to the southward and eastward of Nagpore. In Ambhora, Chimmoor, and Brihmapore, there are eleven petty Mookassas, all of whom possess one or more hamlets in the jungles, or in their immediate vicinity, inhabited by Gonds. The chief strength, however, of this class, lies in Sahungurhee and Pertaubghur, in which are reckoned seventeen Mookassas, holding one hundred and thirty-three inhabited villages. The aggregate population of all these villages, is not accurately known; it, probably, does not fall short of three or four thousand souls.

The Lanjhee Zemindars formerly maintained considerable parties of armed followers in their service, but almost the whole of them have been discharged or quitted the country.

It may be observed, that the armies of the state were never raised or recruited in Deogurh, nor is there any ancient military force of the country like the class of Peons, in Mysore, who were employed in police duties, or in the preservation of internal tranquillity. The cavalry was composed of Marhattas, from the Poona territories, and from different parts of the Deckhan, with Moosulman adventurers from Hindoostan, and the infantry,

consisted of Arabs, Gosaeens, and Purdesees. Some of the cavalry have found employment in the auxiliary horse, and a portion of the infantry are retained as Seebundees. All the others have quitted the country, and dispersed in different directions. It seems remarkable, that so few of the military adventurers, who accompanied the first Raghojee from Berar, and served in the armies of his successors, should have thought of forming permanent establishments in the district, and it is not improbable, that the absence of a race of native soldiers, which must have grown out of a contrary system, has both contributed to the speedy and complete settlement of the country, and saved the Government from the expence of providing for a numerous class of individuals. These Marhatta soldiers do not appear to have considered this country as their home; in general they looked to military employment, as the sole means of obtaining a livelihood; and on the ruin of that service, they either retired to their paternal abodes, or engaged in the armies of other states. A few Marhatta families were scattered over the districts in the vicinity of Nagpore, the members of whom both engaged in tillage and served as soldiers, or sent Bargeers to serve in their room. These individuals, who were termed Sillehdars, were most numerous about Catool, Canoolee, Pownar, and the districts to the southward of Nagpore. Some of them had small establishments of brood mares, and reared a few horses of an inferior size and value. The greater proportion, however, of this class, have quitted the country, and those who remain, have broken up their breeding establishments, and entirely depend upon agriculture for a subsistence. The total number of this class scattered in the districts between the Wurda and Wyne Gunga, according to a census made about five years ago, was only seven hundred and eighty-two, and it is supposed they now do not amount to half so many.

Manner of living. Diet of the lower classes.

The food of all the lower classes, is composed of the cheapest and coarsest

coarsest grains, and exhibits little variety all the year round. Their usual diet consists of the meal of Joaree and other grains, mixed up with bran in equal quantities, or if grain is dear, in the proportions of two measures of bran to one of meal, which, with the addition of a little salt, are made into cakes, and eaten with red pepper, and perhaps a small quantity of split peas. They are sometimes boiled together and swallowed in a liquid state. In the rainy season, the small grains of the millet species are substituted for Joar.

The insipidity of this diet is also relieved, during the rains, by the variety of garden vegetables, which are cultivated in the open fields, and are so cheap as to be accessible to the poorest classes.

Diet of the middling and higher classes

The ordinary diet of persons of this description, consists of bread made of the meal of Joaree or other grains, with a proportion of flour, and peas or beans. The Joaree cakes are prepared in a great variety of ways, are dipped in oil or ghee, and are eaten with vegetables, pickles, and boiled peas. A very common and palatable dish, is formed from Joaree meal, mixed up with butter-milk, and boiled into a substance resembling porridge, and seasoned with pepper and vegetable oils. Milk and curds, prepared in various ways, are frequently added, although the produce of the dairy is more commonly reserved for the market, or rearing of cattle. The only difference between the diet of a family in the upper classes, and that of common Putels, or Kirsans, in easy circumstances, is, that the former consume a greater proportion of fine wheat and rice than the latter, and seasoning stuff, such as goor, ghee, &c.

Animal food

The consumption of animal food is not great, but the mass of the population refrain from this diet, more frequently on account of its greater expence than from religious motives, and out of one hundred and eleven

casts,

casts, only eighteen entirely refrain from it. All the cultivating classes eat the flesh of goats and sheep, with particular kinds of game, as well as fish, poultry, and eggs. Many of them have no objection to eating wild hog; they, however, seldom taste animal food, excepting at festivals and entertainments; and it need not be mentioned that all classes of Hindoos abstain from it on particular days.

Number of meals

The common working classes have only one regular meal a day, which is always after sun-set. Persons of this description generally make a slight repast at noon, which usually consists of a portion of the stale victuals of the preceding night, and often nothing better than a few handfuls of parched peas or grain. Agricultural laborers, during the ploughing season, when they are hard-worked, have two regular meals, one of which, the mid-day meal, they eat in the fields. The poorer of them, when the Joar begins to ripen, subsist during the day on the heads of the plant, which are roasted in the ashes, and are a favorite food with these classes. Amongst the poorer classes, men, women, and children sit down to their meals together, nor is there any distinction in the quality of the food allotted to each.

The use of spirituous liquors and intoxicating drugs—to what classes chiefly confined.

The casts who abstain from animal food, usually refrain from spirituous liquors. It has already been mentioned, that eighteen casts never taste flesh, and they are said to abstain also from drinking. All the other casts drink, but many of them very sparingly. The casts most addicted to this vice are the Dhers, or Muhars, and the Gonds and Purdhans. Amongst the tribes of artificers, weavers, potters, and chumars, are considered the greatest drunkards; but all the casts of this division, with the exception of three or four, are fond of drinking, and many of them indulge in it to excess. The women of some of these casts are as fond of liquor as their husbands, and children, it is said, commence drinking at the age of eight or nine.

Amongst

Amongst the cultivators, the only classes who drink hard, are the Telees. Almost all the other casts drink occasionally, generally at festivals, marriages, and after the performance of hard labor, but few of them carry it to excess. The practice of drinking is considered disreputable amongst the better classes, and they will not do it publicly. Many of them smoke gunja, and swallow bang, but it is only individuals now and then who carry these practices to excess. The cultivators are fond of chewing and smoking tobacco, in common with almost all the other casts, and these may be said to be the only luxuries in which the more respectable classes of them indulge.

Rates of hire for common day laborers

Labourers, hired by the day, are often paid eight months of the twelve, in money.

When there is a demand for labor, able-bodied men get two and a half, and three pice a day, but two seems to be the common rate for men and women in the country. The quantity of food and other necessaries that a family depending on daily hire for its subsistence can procure, depends upon the price of grain—as long as it is moderately cheap, they can procure a sufficient quantity of coarse food; but in dear years, they are often reduced to the greatest distress, are obliged to shift from one district to another, and to have recourse to petty plundering and theft for a subsistence.

Laborers hired for fixed periods, as by the month or year, are almost always paid in grain, and seldom in money, excepting when grain gets very dear: a farm servant usually receives at the rate of five cooroos, or forty pylees, per mensem. He also receives two rupees for a blanket and a pair of shoes. A few get six cooroos a month, with the same money allowance. Hired laborers, not adults, get three cooroos a month, with two rupees.

rupees. In the vicinity of Nagpore, and some of the large towns, wages are higher, sometimes in the proportion of a third.

The labor of common farm servants, when hired by the day, is more expensive than when they are hired for a fixed period; but as many persons find it convenient to employ them in this way, different rates have been introduced for different kinds of work.

All kinds of ploughing and sowing, when paid by the day, are at the rate of two pylees of grain to the man who holds the plough, and one pylee to the boy who drives the cattle. Reaping, carrying, winnowing, and storing, with the different kinds of field work, performed by men during the harvest, are usually at the same rate. In the rains, weeding and all kinds of hired labor are usually paid at the rate of two pice a day, although able-bodied men sometimes get three.

Many of the labours of husbandry are executed by contract; the laborers engaging for a certain share of the produce to perform certain tasks.

Fluctuations in the rates of wages.

As no registers* are kept of the wages of labor, it is impossible to state, with any kind of precision, the fluctuations that have taken place in their rates. From what I can learn, it would appear, that the money rates have increased within the last twenty years; that is, a man who now gets two or three pice a day, received then only one. The rise in the money rate has, however, been more nominal than real, and seems to be chiefly

* In the Appendix, No. 1, is given a List of the present rate of wages, and Price Current of grain, and some of the most common necessaries in the city of Nagpore.

chiefly owing to the depreciation in the copper currency. In A. D. 1803, and previous to that period, there were forty pice to the rupee, which are now cut down to fifty-eight or sixty. Grain was, however, made dearer during the twenty years preceding our management than it had been before, and as the actual money-price of labor was nearly the same, the working classes gained little by the advance of wages until lately. In the reigns of Tanojee and Moodhojee, grain sold at the rate of three rupees a khundee, which is nearly the present rate; so that those who receive wages in money, ought to be better off than ever they were before. All accounts agree in stating, that laborers who are paid in kind, receive less grain for their labor than they did formerly.

The fluctuations in the prices of grain were formerly very great, not only from year to year, but from month to month; being sometimes twice as dear or a third dearer at one period of the year than the other. The abolition of the grain duties will, it is to be hoped, contribute to prevent this evil in future.

Disposition of the natives to labor.

The cultivators, and the poorer classes, must work the greater part of the day to enable them to live. Almost all the inhabitants of a village rise with the dawn, and the cultivators generally an hour before it; and with the exception of a rest of two hours in the middle of the day, work until sun-set. People employed in weeding, reaping, and out-of-door work, are expected to labor about nine hours,—they usually commence about nine in the morning, and leave off at sun set. Mechanics, who find employment in their own line, generally work the same number of hours. When labor is paid by the piece, or the quantity of work performed, it is always more quickly executed than when paid by the day. The cultivators are well aware of this circumstance, and when any of the operations of husbandry are required to be speedily executed, they are performed by contract.

Many of the common village mechanics are so situated, that they can only exert a certain quantity of industry in their own particular line. They receive fees and perquisites from the peasants for the performance of services, both of which are fixed and invariable. There seems to be hardly any demand for their labor beyond what is required for the preparation and repairing of agricultural implements. Almost every inhabitant of the village, both builds and furnishes his own house, and does not require the assistance of masons, carpenters, or blacksmiths. The village artificers are, consequently, often without employment in their own line, and when pressed for subsistence, betake themselves to agriculture, or some kind of day labor.

Labor is better rewarded in towns than in the country, and mechanics and petty manufacturers are said to be more industrious in the former than in the latter.

Occupations in the stages of infancy, maturity and old age.

The children of the poorer Kirsans, and all the lower orders, begin to work about the age of eight or nine years, when they are usually employed in herding and looking after the cattle. The children of artificers and manufacturers begin to learn the trade of the cast about nine or ten, and earn full wages about eighteen or twenty. Cultivators plough and perform all the more laborious duties of husbandry until about the age of fifty-five, when they are employed in weeding, watching the crops, making ropes, and work about the house. The wages of a Wursula are reduced one-half when he becomes unfit for hard labor, but if he has been brought up in the family of a Kirsan, the latter supports him until his death, should he be unable to labor. This class of people, sometimes, continue to serve the same families for generations, and when this is the case, a strong attachment usually subsists between them and their masters. All the various classes of artificers work at their trades until about the

the age of fifty-five, after which, if their families cannot maintain them, they can earn something by weeding. Women continue to work in the fields and perform hard labor until fifty or fifty-five, after which they are employed in spinning and work within doors.

Religion.

The Bramins of this country profess to pay equal adoration to Brahma, Vishnu, and Siva; but nine-tenths of the whole body are considered as followers of Siva or Mahadeo, who is the object of their peculiar worship, as well as of that of the cultivators, and almost all the other classes, to which the latter add a number of inferior gods and deities, or malignant spirits. Subdivisions of the same cast, who trace their origin to different provinces, frequently adore separate deities. Eight divisions of the Guolees, who came from Hindoostan, are votaries of Vishnu and Crishna, whilst Maharatta and Telinga Guolees worship Mahadeo. Some divisions of the Kullals, as well as the Marwarees, Aggerwallas, and others, are Jains. Religious rites and ceremonies occupy very little of the time of the common cultivators, excepting at the periodical feasts and festivals, when worship is paid to the rural deities, and at the times of pilgrimage to the sacred places. Almost every Kirsan has in his possession a set of household gods, consisting of little images of Mahadeo, Devee and Kundoba, to whom adoration and sacrifice are offered on stated days. Those in easy circumstances offer daily worship to these images, wash and place flowers before them, invoking, at the same time, blessings on themselves and their families.

Fasts.

The fast-days amongst the Bramins and the higher classes of Hindoos are, as it is well known, very numerous. Amongst the cultivators, the Monday of each week, and the 11th of each month, are fasts, as well as the greater portion of the months Srawun and Bhadon. The grand fast of the Sivrati, which is kept on the 14th of Magh, in honor of the birth

birth of Mahadeo, is very generally observed, and on this day they abstain for twenty-four hours from every species of nourishment.

Festivals.

The Kirsans reckon seventeen principal festivals within the year. All these festivals, except the *Jeotee*, are known and celebrated in other parts of India; but this is said to be peculiar to the Marhatta nation. It falls on the 15th of Ashar, and is celebrated with worship and offerings of sheep, goats, and fowls to Jeotee, one of the female attendants of Devee, who is supposed to be inimical to young children.

The Pola, which is kept on the 15th of Srawun, is the festival in which the Marhatta peasantry appear to take peculiar delight. On this day worship is performed to Brishubh, or the Bull, and to the oxen used in husbandry, &c. which are ornamented in various ways, and led about in solemn procession.

The grand festival, however, amongst the Marhattas, is the Dusserah, at which all classes endeavor to rival each other in their entertainments and decorations. On this day, nearly the same festivities and ceremonies are observed by the Putel and inhabitants of a village, as by the head of the empire.

About twenty or thirty days are annually devoted by the Kirsans to these festivals, according to their leisure and circumstances, and their recurrence, as periods of festivity and recreation, is contemplated with delight by all ranks. The Kirsans, as well as artificers and manufacturers, cease from labor on these days. They paint and decorate their houses, bathe and dress in their best apparel, and when the religious ceremonies are over, they assemble and feast together with their relatious and friends, enter into a variety of games and amusements, and dedicate the day to festivity and rest.

All

All the working classes offer sacrifices and worship on stated days to the implements through which their subsistence is obtained; Sahookars and merchants, to their ledgers and hoards of treasure; and revenue ser-servants, to the Duftur, or public records of their departments.

Jatras, or Pilgrimages.

The grand Jatra is to the temple of Ramtek, which annually takes place on the full moon of Kartik, and lasts ten days. It is frequented by persons from all parts of the Nagpore territories, and from the Nizam's districts, north of the Godavery; and, in peaceable times, about one hundred thousand are supposed to resort thither at these periods. In 1821, the number exceeded that estimate. It is in honor of Rama.

Besides Ramtek, there are, in every district, one or more temples, at which Jatras assemble on particular days, at eclipses, and on other occasions; but they are only attended by people in the immediate neighbourhood. Out of four hundred and forty-three temples, only fifteen are maintained by Government, and they cost annually about eleven thousand Rupees.

Mahommedan Shrines.

At Girar, about forty miles south from Nagpore, there is a hill, supposed to contain the tomb of the celebrated Sheikh Fereed, which is respected both by Hindoos and Mahommedans; and the Rajahs of Nagpore have frequently visited it. It costs the Government about eighteen hundred rupees a year. There are no other Mahommedan shrines of note.

Manners, habits, and moral character.

The manners and habits of the people, in general, have few singularities to distinguish them from those frequently described of other parts of India.

Inhabitants of the Country.

The Bramins are mild and courteous in their manners, particularly in

 the

the presence of superiors; but in their intercourse with the other classes, they are often proud and overbearing. They are great flatterers and dissemblers, and have a complete command over their tempers, which they never lose, where their interests are at stake. They are quick, penetrating, and can express themselves with readiness and propriety on all occasions.

The manners of the peasantry and lower classes, both of the city and country, though rougher than those of the Bramins, are more pleasing to Europeans. The most remarkable feature, perhaps, in the character of the Marhattas, of all descriptions, is the little regard they pay to show or ceremony in the common intercourse of life. A peasant or mechanic, of the lowest order, appearing before his superiors, will sit down of his own accord, tell his story without ceremony, and converse more like an equal than an inferior; and if he has a petition to present, he talks in a loud and boisterous tone, and fearlessly sets forth his claims. Both the peasantry and the better classes are often coarse and indelicate in their language, and many of the proverbs which they are fond of introducing into conversation, are extremely gross. In general, the Marhattas, and particularly the cultivators, are not possessed of much activity or energy of character, but they have a quick perception of their own interest, though their ignorance of writing and accounts often renders them the dupes of the artful Bramins.

State of the moral character.

The morals of the Bramins are described, both by Captain Wilkinson and Captain Gordon, to be very depraved. In all their dealings with the Government, they shew a total disregard to truth and common honesty, and they are found to be a deceitful, intriguing, and unprincipled race. They are not naturally cruel, but to gratify their avarice, they do not scruple to employ torture and the most cruel punishments. They are considered to be bad masters. Their charity only extends to their own

tribe. They unblushingly contemn anything like honest or upright conduct, and deceit is regarded by them as the perfection of wisdom. There are, no doubt, many respectable individuals amongst them; but so sensible are they of the venality of their own order, that if they recommend one of their own relations, even for employment under Government, they either force him to give security or hire a person to watch his proceedings. Their vices are, in part, redeemed by some virtues. The Bramins are quiet, sober, and intelligent, they are fond of their children, and kind to their women.

Not only the peasantry, but all classes of the population have a great diregard to truth, which, though most conspicuous in their dealings with Government, is not unfrequent in their transactions with one another. The great body of them are, notwithstanding, quiet, sober and industrious, and are not prone to the shedding of blood, robbery, drunkenness, or any great vices. The Gonds, and other low tribes, are the general perpetrators of great crimes. They are careless about human life or suffering, when any of their passions are to be gratified; and on conviction for capital offences, they evince great apathy; yet, murders and highway robberies, which were at one time frequent, are now very uncommon, and though crimes which proceed from the common infirmities of our nature, must every now and then be expected to occur, we have the satisfaction to know that we have been, in a very great degree, instrumental in putting down the gangs of professional villains, who were the scourge of the country during the former Government.

Treatment of women and children.

As might be expected, all the low casts, who are addicted to hard drinking, are noted for their bad usage of women and children. It is only amongst these classes that complaints are ever made by females, of being beaten or abused, and the domestic brawls of many of them, particularly of the

the tribes of Koshtees, or weavers, potters, &c. are proverbial. All the other casts are said to behave well to females. The Marhatta women are under little personal restraint. They appear unveiled in public, and are allowed to visit their relations for days and weeks together, unaccompanied by any of their male connexions. The women of the peasantry have the character of being faithful to their husbands, although this is not the praise of those of many other casts. The treatment of children seems usually good and kind.

Inhabitants of the city.
Higher classes.

The reigning family, and the officers and pensioners of the late and present Government, may be called the highest class of society, or the gentry of the city. The manners of the reigning family and the Marhatta chiefs, in general, partake of the plainness and rude simplicity of the peasantry, a little tempered with the more polished demeanor of the Bramins, of which class the civil officers are chiefly composed. In morals, what is said above of the Bramins of the country, may be applied still more strongly to those of the court and capital, whilst it may be affirmed, that no where are more depraved habits, more debauchery, and want of respectability, than in the interior and precincts of the palace.

Middling classes.

The next, and decidedly the most respectable class of the inhabitants is, that which consists of the mercantile part of the community. Among them are included the Marwarees, Bohrahs, Birwars, and Gosaeens. The Marwarees are the principal shroffs, or bankers, in the city. They are extremely intelligent, quick in the despatch of business, and correct and fair in their dealings. In their general conduct and demeanor, they are sedate and respectable, and they bear, perhaps, the highest character of any class in the community for integrity and fair dealing; although, at the same time, they are the keenest and readiest of the merchants to take advantage of all changes in the state of the commercial and money markets.

The

The Bohrahs, Purwars, and Gosaeens are also respectable merchants and traders, but in a secondary class, seldom entering into banking transactions. They are respectable also, as members of the community, but not so much so, perhaps, as the Marwarees.

Lower classes.

After these come the petty traders, shop-keepers, and persons who follow the trades and handicrafts peculiar to their own casts. These classes are, in general, quiet and orderly in their conduct and demeanor, and earn their livelihood by following the profession of the casts they belong to. One or two exceptions must, however, be made. The Sonars are very disreputable characters, and the principal encouragers of theft, by purchasing and melting down stolen ornaments, which they have great facilities in doing; and it has been found impracticable to put a stop to the practice, although severe examples have been made of some of those convicted, the traffick is so profitable. The lowest class of the community is composed of those who are employed as menial servants, day laborers, cultivators, and in professions which are considered as disrespectable, or belong to casts which are considered as infamous.

The people at large.

With regard to the people at large, or at least the inferior classes, the Superintendent of Police, Captain Wetherspoon, gives a very unfavorable opinion; though he states it with the qualification that it is, perhaps, biassed in consequence of his intercourse with them being almost entirely confined to that arising out of his official situation in the Police, and that it is, therefore, generally, the most depraved and vicious portion of the people with whom he is brought in contact.

General character.

They are grossly ignorant, superstitious, and prejudiced; addicted to falsehood, and seldom to be credited, even in their oaths, unless their testimony is supported by a train of circumstantial evidence or other collateral proof.

They

They are litigious, crafty, and designing, and take a pleasure in overreaching those they have to deal with, and no faith is to be placed in any engagement they enter into, unless the fulfilment of it is secured by a bond, or the surety of a third party. This is so well understood among themselves, that it is usual to give bonds, regularly witnessed, for sums of ten, fifteen, and twenty rupees.

They are not addicted to cruelty or violence of any description. Instances of this kind are of rare occurrence. Their anger, generally, exhausts itself in abuse, or a trifling scuffle, and on the whole, they may be considered as a quiet and orderly population. Drunkenness, however, is common among some of the lower classes, but this must be expected, when there is no restriction on the sale of spirits, and it is so cheap that a sufficient quantity can be obtained to produce intoxication, for two or three pice.

Suicide.

Suicide is very common amongst them. From June 1823, till December 1825, not less than seventy-five instances of suicide have occurred. The causes which lead to the commission of this crime, are generally of a very trifling nature. Petty quarrels and disputes between relatives, and husbands and wives, frequently lead to this result, and it is resorted to as a means of being revenged on the persons by whom they imagine themselves to be aggrieved. Suicide is generally committed by the parties taking poison, or throwing themselves into wells. Hanging is sometimes had recourse to, but less frequently.

mestic relations.

In their social and domestic relations, they seem to be deficient in natural affection, and the ties which commonly bind other persons most strongly together, appear to sit very lightly on the Marhattas. On occasions of distress or disaster occurring to their nearest relations, they exhibit

exhibit great apathy, and consider nothing of moment in which they are not personally interested.

Chastity seems to be a virtue held in little estimation among the lower classes, and a deviation from it is considered of little moment. Husbands come to complain, without the least appearance of concern, that their wives have gone to live with other men, and apply to have them restored; and when the parties are brought together, they go away as if nothing had occurred; and, without taking any farther notice of the circumstance, live together as formerly.

In their persons and habits they are dirty and slovenly, and have little or no sense of shame or decency in many of their daily habits. Want of cleanliness.

Captain Montgomerie's account of the moral character of the population of his district, particularly of the females, is not more encouraging; but we have a more favorable picture from Colonel Agnew, of that of the inhabitants of Chutteesgurh. Inhabitants of Deogurh above the Ghauts.

Considering the uninformed state of the people, their moral character appears to Colonel Agnew, to be superior to that met with in most other parts of India. Murders are rare, and are in most cases occasioned by jealousy or supposed acts of witchcraft, both which occasions are universally considered, if not a sufficient justification, at least a great palliation of the offence. Petty thieving seldom occurs, and the more daring robberies, by gangs, and on the high-ways, are less frequent than might be expected, from the facility to escape afforded by the surrounding jungles and Zemindaries. In regard to women, their habits appear to be rather loose. On the whole, Colonel Agnew considers them to be honest, to be unaddicted to great crimes, and to have more regard to truth than is common in India. Inhabitants of Chutteesgurh.

All

Witchcraft.

All classes, from the highest to the lowest, believe in witchcraft, and in the efficacy of spells and incantations, and many are the tragical consequences of this belief. The following account sent me by Colonel Agnew, is sufficiently descriptive of the general practice and opinions concerning it.

"The belief in witchcraft has no exceptions. The best informed, and the most ignorant of the Hindoos and Mooselmans give credit to its existence. The art, however, is supposed to reside almost exclusively in old women, and the faith of this class in the general superstition is such as actually to induce them to maintain, that they are possessed of the power imputed to them, and frequently to acknowledge themselves Tonees, (as the witches are called) although the consequence subjects them to immediate death, or at least to expulsion from their cast, and to severe punishment."

The usual test by which witches are discovered, is that of plunging them, tied up in a bag, into the water; if they sink, they are innocent, if they swim, guilty; and they are punished sometimes with death, at others their teeth are drawn; they are made to drink the water in which the skins of dead animals have been immersed, are beat with the twigs of a particular bush, supposed to have peculiar properties, and are turned out of their cast, and sometimes out of the village.

Ordeal.

The superstitious practice of the ordeal, called Deep, as it seems chiefly to prevail in Chutteesgurh, may here, also, be given in Colonel Agnew's words.

"In Chutteesghur, as in other parts of India," he says, "little reliance is placed on the bare assertion of any individual, upon a fact in which he

is

is interested. This has led to the practice called Deep, which was common until the introduction of our authority, of persons submitting the truth of their declarations to the following test: One of the parties, generally the complainant, having seven leaves of the Peepul tree, placed upon his two hands, and secured with cotton threads, and the whole rubbed with butter, receives into them a red hot ball of iron, about the size of a four-pound shot, which, if he carries seven paces, without the flesh of the hands being burnt, his truth is established, and he is entitled to the redress which his cause requires. If his hands are burnt, he is adjudged to have told a falsehood, and is dismissed or punished.

Slavery in the country.

In the country, slavery is hardly known, and only at all amongst the richer classes. The slaves that exist are composed of persons of both sexes, chiefly females, whose parents have been constrained by necessity to part with them. They are purchased in infancy, and are said to be well treated by their masters, with whom they live more like hired servants than slaves. Their state of bondage is not indicated by wearing any badge. In A. D. 1818 to 1819, numbers of the poorer Kirsans, who were constrained to sell their children during the famine, on grain getting cheaper, came to reclaim them, when they were either gratuitously relinquished by the purchasers, or for a trifling compensation. In Hindoo families, the children of female domestics, by any of the relations, or inmates of the house, are considered as a kind of personal property. The head of the family to whom they belong, cannot, however, sell them, or hire them out to another.

Slavery in the city.

We have not been able to obtain any correct returns of the numbers of the slaves in the city. The persons who possess them, seem reluctant to afford information on the subject, being, in all probability, impressed with a feeling, that the inquiry regarding their numbers and condition, is

only a preliminary step to future measures which may operate to their prejudice. It has been endeavoured to remove any feeling of this kind, but ineffectually; for some of the higher classes of the inhabitants, in whose families slaves are most numerous, decline altogether, to give any information on the subject.

The following is the total number of which any account has been received; viz.

	Purchased Slaves.		Bound for their own lives.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindoos, ...	249	238	174	847	1508
Moosulmans, ...	196	605	83	192	1076
	445	843	257	1039	
Total,...	1288		1296		2584

To this number it is supposed, that from five to six hundred of each description may be added, as belonging to the Rajah's establishment, and the families of persons who have declined to give any account of them. Making, on the whole, an aggregate total of three thousand five hundred slaves and bond servants. This can, however, be taken as only an approximation to the true number; for it is impossible to ascertain it correctly, without enforcing the making of the returns by some penal regulation.

The persons in a state of actual slavery, or who are bound for themselves and posterity, to serve their proprietors and their heirs, have almost invariably been reduced to this condition in their early infancy, during times of famine, or the occurrence of disaster and misfortune to their parents,

parents, who, being thereby rendered incapable of providing for their children, sell them into slavery to prevent their falling victims to want. These are brought up in the families of their purchasers, generally as domestic servants, and are frequently placed almost on an equality with their masters' children, in regard to food and clothing; and it is not uncommon for persons who have no children of their own, to adopt their slaves as their sons, and leave their property to them at their death. Task-labor, or any work beyond what would be expected from a hired servant, is never exacted from the slaves; and in general, they are treated with great kindness and consideration, and become more the attached servants, and it may be said, friends of the families in which they have been nurtured, than the degraded slaves, from whom no labor can be obtained except what is extorted by fear of punishment. Neither law nor custom leaves it in the power of the master to inflict any punishment on a slave beyond that of moderate correction or chastisement, which is allowed to be exercised by masters of families over the members of their own families; and when a slave commits any fault of a nature which requires a severe punishment, or induces the master to wish to get rid of the slave, the party is brought before the Court, and punished in the same manner as other persons, or is turned out of the house by the master, and emancipated from slavery, which is considered as a punishment, instead of being desired as a benefit, so mild is the condition and treatment of slaves. Transfers of slaves, in the way of sale, are not known in Nagpore; such an occurrence as the sale of a grown up slave from one person to another, has not been known for a great length of time. The children of slaves continue in slavery, and are looked on as the hereditary servants of the family in which their parents were brought up. They are, however, frequently emancipated by their masters; and the number of slaves in the city is stated to have decreased very much in the last ten years, and to be still rapidly decreasing. In fact, it is only persons of property, or in easy circumstances, that can afford to keep slaves,

slaves, for they are more expensive than other servants, and they are also considered more trust-worthy than hired servants, so that the slave of a family obtains more esteem and confidence than a common menial, instead of being degraded by his condition. In conclusion, it may be safely affirmed that slavery, as the term is understood in Europe, does not exist in the city of Nagpore, and that what is called slavery, so far from being a state of degradation and hardship, is one of respectability and comfort, compared with the condition of the mass of the laboring population.

The other class of slaves, or bond-servants, consists of persons who have no permanent means of subsistence, or, who, being without family and friends, and in distressed circumstances, wish to obtain a permanent provision for their lives. A great portion of this class are females, generally widows; who, not being allowed to marry again, and having no means of obtaining a livelihood, engage to serve for life for their food and clothing. These women are called "But-rees," and great numbers of them are kept by the Rajah's family, and the families of the principal persons about the Court. They are, generally, very loose and debauched in their habits, and frequently live in concubinage in the city, with the sanction and approbation of their masters. The males, who enter into engagements of this kind, are called "Bandes." They are all bound to serve during their natural lives for their bare food and clothing, which their masters are, in return, bound to provide them with; but any children they may have are considered as free, and their masters have no claim on their services. The proprietors, both of slaves and But-rees, frequently make concubines of them. The illegitimate progeny produced by this intercourse, goes by the name of "Ecdoor," in general, among the Hindoos; but the illegitimate children of the Rajah's family and connexions, are called Bhouslas, by way of distinction. The whole of the class is considered as free.

Education

Education is chiefly confined to the children of Bramins and those of the mercantile classes, and the instruction they receive does not seem much calculated to promote their moral or intellectual improvement. All the other classes are extremely illiterate, and particularly the Kirsans. It is a rare circumstance, says Captain Gordon, to find one amongst them who can write his own name. Captain Wilkinson remarks, that this ignorance, in some measure, arises from a prejudice which the cultivating class entertain against learning, as giving their children an aversion to their own profession, on which they must depend for subsistence. State of education in the country.

Reading, writing, and accounts, are the chief objects of education, and these are only carried to the extent necessary for each individual's profession. The only order who ever look at books, are Bramins, and their reading is confined to subjects of Hindoo divinity. The knowledge of Sancrit is professed by very few even of these. The modes of instruction are the same as described in other parts of India.

There are no schools exclusively for the education of Mahommedan children. The tribes of Moollahs and Kazees are quite uneducated, and few of them can even read or write the Persian language. They know nothing of Mahommedan law; but are sufficiently acquainted with the common rules and usages of the sect, to enable them to officiate at marriages, and decide on disputes regarding religious matters.

In Captain Gordon's district, there are one hundred and thirteen schools, superintended by the same number of masters, who are usually Bramins or Vidoors. These schools are all established in the large towns, and Kusbahs, and in some of them there are two or three. The total number of children who receive instruction at these schools, is one thousand one hundred and seventy; or, calculating the total children under sixteen

sixteen years, beyond which age they never remain at school, at eighty thousand and seventy-seven: it would appear that public instruction is only extended to one in eighty. The payments of the children to their masters vary, from two annas to one rupee per month, according to the circumstances of the parents.

In the Wyne Gunga district, there are fifty-five schools, twenty-eight in the Kusbahs, and twenty-seven in villages, the number of pupils is four hundred and fifty-two, of whom forty-five are taught Persian, the rest Marhatta. The expense is on the same scale as the above.

In Captain Montgomerie's district, the number of schools is only seven. The number of scholars has not been ascertained. The expense, to the children is, from two annas to four per mensem. Of the schools in Chanda district, there is no report.

In Chutteesgurh, there are four or five schools at Ruttenpore, five at Rypore, and perhaps one in each other Purgunnah. The school-masters receive from two to four annas per month from each scholar. The languages generally taught are the Nagree and Marhatta, and some few are instructed in Persian and Hindoostanee.

Private tuition is gratuitously conveyed to a still greater number of children by the Bramins, Vidoors, or village Pandias. The teachers are paid by the parents, at the rate of two or three rupees per annum, or, as in Chutteesgurh, by presents on certain days; but more frequently by the tutor living free of expense with the parents of the children. If the Shastry, or principal Bramin, teaches the children of the village, he has no other object than the performance of a praise-worthy and charitable act, and will seldom accept the presents which are offered him. There is

no

no allowance for schools any where, in land or money, from the Government, the attention of which was never attracted to public education.

There are, in the city and suburbs, one hundred and two instructors; including teachers of public schools, private tutors, and such as teach boys gratuitously, as a religious duty. State of education in the city.

The number of public schools which are supported by the payments made by the parents of the pupils, for their instruction, is forty-six; of these there are, for teaching

Marhatta,.....	40
Persian,.....	2
Nagree,.....	3
Marhatta and Hindoostanee, (in the Persian character.).....	1
Total,....	46

The number of pupils attending these public schools, is nine hundred and thirty-six, of which there are, learning

Marhatta,.....	624
Persian,.....	22
Nagree,.....	39
Marhatta and Hindoostanee (in the Persian character.....	51
Total,....	936

In

In addition to the public teachers, there are fifty-one private tutors and teachers, who instruct boys gratuitously. Of these there are, for teaching, the

Shasters and Veds,.....	23
Persian,.....	28
Arabic,.....	4
Telinga,.....	1
Total,....	56

The number of pupils taught by these instructors, is three hundred and twenty-three. Of which there are, learning the

Veds and Shasters,.....	159
Persian,.....	126
Arabic,.....	33
Telinga,.....	5
Total,....	323
Total number of pupils,....	1,259

The average number of pupils in the Marhatta public schools, is about twenty and a half to each. The average rate of remuneration to the masters, may be taken at three annas per mensem for each boy, which makes about three rupees and twelve annas a month to each teacher. Some of them, however, do not receive so much as this, and others receive double the amount.

The school in which Marhatta and Hindoostanee is taught, is supported by a private subscription among the writers in the public offices; and is superintended by a writer named Henry Antone, attached to the Residency,

Residency. Printed translations of the Old and New Testaments, into Marhatta and Hindoostanee, (in the Persian character) are in use in this school.

The remuneration to the private tutors varies, from two rupees a month, in addition to their food and clothing, to thirty rupees. The private tutors are all Moosulman, and teach only Arabic and Persian. The education of the children of the respectable part of the Mooselman population, is entirely entrusted to these private tutors, who are generally domesticated in the houses of the persons whose children they are employed to instruct.

The teaching and learning the Veds and Shasters is, exclusively, confined to the Bramin class, and no remuneration is ever made for instruction in the sacred books. It is considered as a religious obligation, to afford instruction to all who are qualified, and desirous to learn, without receiving any reward or gratuity whatever.

It does not appear that any support is given by the Government for the encouragement of education among the inhabitants, either by the establishment of public schools, or the grant of lands or pensions to any of the teachers. The teachers receive no public support whatever, and depend entirely for subsistence on the monthly remuneration they receive for the instruction of the pupils entrusted to their charge.

Several Mahomedans teach Persian gratis, under the impression that so meritorious an act will be taken into consideration in a future state. These persons usually earn a livelihood by some trade or profession, and devote their leisure hours to the instruction of children.

As the Rajah advances in years, his attention ought to be drawn to the subject of education; and he might be induced to found a college in the city, and to give encouragement to schools, on the system adopted in the Company's provinces.

Poors' House.

There is in the city a Lungur-khana, or Poor-house. All persons who are blind, lame, infirm, and helpless, or incapable of earning a livelihood, are admitted into this establishment. They receive food, and a blanket, which is all the clothing they require. There are generally from thirty-five to forty poor persons in the house. The expense is defrayed by Government, and comes to about one hundred rupees a month.

Disposition of the inhabitants to the present order of things.

The disposition of the great body of the people to the present order of things is good. The great officers of Government, and those who hold lucrative employments about the Court, the Army and the Revenue department, cannot, of course, regard the change with a favourable eye. In the districts, those who dislike it the most, are the Bramins, who as Mamlutdars, Revenue farmers, Phurnuveeses, and accountants, engrossed the entire management of the Revenue, and the administration of Civil Justice, and cheated both the Government and the people. Many of this class have been thrown out of employment, and the power and emoluments of all have been abridged. Perhaps a few of the leading Putels in each district, and the Zemindars generally, would prefer the old system to the one now established, because they formerly enjoyed great influence through the Mamlutdars, who made use of their services. With the above exceptions, it may be asserted, that all the other classes, particularly the cultivators, are highly satisfied with the actual Government, and feel and acknowledge the benefits which they have derived from the interposition of British agency between them and their native rulers.

SECTION THIRD.

AGRICULTURE, TRADES AND MANUFACTURES, AND COMMERCE.

THE system of husbandry, in the Nagpore Dominions, is much the same as in other parts of India. Agriculture.

The general classification of lands, according to the produce, is into *Khurreef* or *Sheearee*, *Rubbee* or *Oonarree*, and *Bughait*. According to the quality of soils, they are distributed into *Kalee*, or the rich black loam; *Kurdee*, or the looser earth, mixed with small stones, and *Burdee*, or the reddish earth, found on rocky substrata. These, for purposes of revenue, are subdivided respectively, according to the deterioration of quality, into first, second, and third sorts, and amongst the cultivators some farther distinctions are observed, which it is unnecessary to notice here. Classification of lands.

The chief grains of the Khurreef crop are, besides rice, which is chiefly produced in the districts of the Wyne Gunga, Chanda, and Chutteesgurh, Articles of produce and returns.

teesgurh, and the smaller species, Kodoo,[1] Kootkee,[2] and Sawa,[3] generally raised in the worst soils, Juwaree[4] and Toor.[5] Those of the Rubbee are wheat, Chenna,[6] Utsee, or linseed, Moong,[7] Til, or Sesame, Muhsoor,[8] and Erindee, or castor plant.

In a good year, the average returns of grains are as follows:

In the Appendix No. 5, a statement of the principal weights and measures in use in the Nagpore Territories is given.

KHURREEF.

Toor,.....	15 to 20 returns—sometimes much more
Juwaree,.....	30 to 40

RUBBEE.

Moong,.....	12 to 15 returns.
Wheat,.....	8 to 14
Utsee,.....	25 to 40
Lukh,.....	8 to 10
Chenna,.....	12 to 15
Peas,.....	10 to 15
Tillee,.....	140 to 160
Muhsoor,.....	8 to 12
Erindee,.....	8 to 10

Implements of husbandry.

The chief implements of agriculture, are the *Bukhar*, a kind of paring plough; two kinds of ploughs, adapted to strong and light soils respectively; the *Teefun*, or drill rake, used for sowing; and a species of hoe plough, called *Dowrun*, for weeding.

The

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[1]Paspalum frumentaceum. [2]Panicum Italicum. [3]Panicum miliaceum. [4]Holcus Sorgum. [5]Cytisus Cajan. [6]Cicer Arietinum. [7]Phascolus Mungo. [8]Ervum Hirsutum.

The ploughing for the Khurreef harvest, of which the Juwaree is the most important crop, begins in May. The paring plough is first used twice or thrice, to level all inequalities of the surface, and the ground is then ploughed four or five times over. Three or four ploughs, if procurable, follow each other in the same furrows. Khurreef cultivation.

When the ground is sufficiently prepared, the cultivator awaits the first fall of rain, to sow the seed, which is done either with the drill rake, by which three ridges are sown at once, or in single ridges with the plough, having a funnel fitted to it behind. It is common to sow Toor and cotton, in alternate ridges, and Juwaree and Moong generally go together. The Bukhur, or paring plough, reversed, serves for a harrow. After the grain has been twenty-five or thirty days above ground, the hoe plough is introduced between the drills, for the double purpose of destroying the grass and thinning the crop, whilst it also covers up the roots. After a lapse of thirty days more, the same instrument is used a second time, and the field is weeded.

The Juwaree, which is sown in June, throws out its head in September, and is ripe in November or December, in all which it reaches the threshing floor, and is trodden out by bullocks.

Rice is another grand crop of the Khurreef. Rice.

There are several processes of rice cultivation.

If the rice is to be transplanted, it is first sown in a spot of ground carefully manured, ploughed, and weeded, and when about a foot high, the plant is ready for removal.

The

The soil of the rice fields having been previously formed into mud, of a proper consistency for receiving the plants, they are taken up, and removed on a kind of a sledge, and set by the hand; men, women and children being employed in the work, on the completion of which, the only thing to be attended to is, to supply the fields with water, and to keep in repair the small embankments which retain it.

The first crop on lands newly brought into cultivation, is generally not transplanted, but sown in the same manner, and at the same season, as other grains of the Khurreef harvest, and old lands, even, are frequently managed in the same manner; but the additional labor bestowed on transplanting, is considered to be well repaid by the increased chance it gives of an abundant return.

There is another mode of proceeding sometimes resorted to, called *Kowruk*, in which the seed is soaked in water for twelve hours, then heaped up in a dry place and covered with leaves; in two days, it begins to sprout, when it is sown. In the Lanjhee district, when the rice is about a foot high, should the crop be thin and much choaked with grass, the whole is ploughed up and left in that state; should continued rain follow, an excellent crop is obtained; but a few days of continued dry weather, causes a total failure of it.

The returns of rice are, on an average, ten-fold, sometimes twenty, and not frequently, only five. They depend on the supply of water chiefly.

Rubbee cultivation.

The ground for the Rubbee crop is, generally, worked with the paring plough, in June or July, and then remains untouched till the rains are nearly over. The paring plough is now again used, to cut down the growth of the two or three months preceding, and the success of the labourer

labourer at this time, is greatly dependent on the weather. If a season of heavy and continued rain be succeeded by a sudden cessation of it, the ground becomes hard and caked, and baffles greatly, sometimes entirely, the efforts of the husbandman, whose implements are not calculated for such an emergency. To this, in a great degree, was owing the calamitous failure of the Rubbee crop in 1819, and the consequent famine.

The ploughman is kept hard at work, night and day, all this interesting period. Fresh bullocks and labourers are supplied at sun-set during the moon-light nights, and they are relieved again at sun-rise.

The seed is sown, either with the plough and funnel abovementioned, in single drills, or with the plough-rake in three, in the months of November and December, ripens in February, and is cut in March.

The produce is trodden out by bullocks in the open air, and winnowed in the wind. The grain is usually preserved in large baskets, or in earthen vases, and in some parts of the country, in pits.

Garden cultivation. Sugar cane.

The grand crop of the garden cultivation is the sugar cane. It is chiefly cultivated in Deogurh, above the Ghats, and in the Wyne Gunga districts. The following account of it is given by Captain Montgomerie:

"This is considered as the highest branch of husbandry. It requires capital, industry, and care; any deficiency in the two latter requisites, inevitably entails the loss of the first. Captain Montgomerie says, there is hardly a medium in the result of the labor of the cultivator of this article. He either makes a great profit, or is temporarily ruined."

"In preparing the ground for the sugar cane, the husbandman most commonly

commonly selects a piece of ground, which has just borne a crop of Oorud.* He draws the Bukhur over it, generally, only once, the plough is then used, and the Bukhur a second time applied, with a view to reduce and pulverize, as far as practicable, all the large lumps of earth. A wealthy Ryot bestows much pains on this early portion of the year's labors. The field is then covered with a thick coat of manure."

" Aqueducts are next made in such a manner as to divide the field into compartments, generally about twelve feet square, which are again subdivided by transverse lines occupying the central space about two feet or under."

" The drains are now watered thoroughly, so as to afford a deep bedding to the plant which is to be laid."

" In preparing the cuttings, the finest canes of the preceding season are selected; each cane, for the most part, consists of from seven to nine knots, three of which are cut off, and the only process for bedding it, which is done lengthways in the drain, already noticed, is that of throwing it carelessly down, and burying it in the humid soil with the foot, none of it being allowed to remain above ground. This is accomplished about the middle of January."

" Great attention is now paid to ensuring a regular supply of water, which, above the Ghats, is generally from wells, but in the Wyne Gunga districts, chiefly from tanks."

" The plants generally throw out their sprouts in the course of forty days,

* Phaseolus Max.

days, one from each knot of the cutting. When they have risen above the ground, they are bolstered up with earth, for a time, and increased assiduity is paid to irrigation."

"When the plant has acquired sufficient strength, the superfluous earth, by which it had been supported in its less advanced stage, is removed, and the water freely and thoroughly introduced to the roots. As the plant grows up, the branches are tied up, and a cloth with salt, is placed in the drain, at the head of the field, to impregnate the water sufficiently to destroy insects. Increased attention is now also required to secure the crop from the depredations of wild animals. In eleven months it is fit to be cut."

Sugar Mill.

The cultivator has, by this time, erected a temporary edifice, with a view to his last labor, of expressing and boiling the juice. The sugar mill consists of two upright cylinders of wood, which work together by a perpetual screw. Two pair of bullocks turn the mill.

The plants being rooted up, are stripped of their branches, and cut into several pieces. One man supplies the rollers with them, and another receives the macerated rind, whilst the juice flows through a trough into the receiver. Near the receiver is constructed an earthen furnace. On this is placed the iron boiler, sometimes large enough to make nine maunds of Goor at once. When it is of a proper consistency, and the scumming is over, it is poured into a cooler, and thence into cloths spread on baskets, which are suspended with earthen pots placed under them, to receive the molasses as it exudes. It is afterwards collected into a bin. The coarser kind of sugar, called *Rab*, is made by shortening the process. The refuse of the mill is dried, and serves for fuel, and the tops and leaves of the plant feed the cattle.

Three boilers full may be prepared in the course of twenty-four hours, or, taking the contents of each at nine maunds, twenty-seven may be produced at one mill. About four thousand maunds of Goor are produced in the two principal Purgunnahs of the Wyne Gunga district, in which the sugar cane is cultivated.

Pan. The Pan, or Betel creeper, is propagated from cuttings, which are set in July. It has a triennial duration, and takes one year for the leaves to be fit for use. They are then regularly gathered every fifteen days, and sold. The dues of Government are paid once a year, according to the following measurement. One cubit and three quarters makes a guz; two guz one kathee; fifty kathees, or twelve and a half square kathees, one lamb. In a lamb, eight rows are planted, and each lamb pays to the Government, from eight to six and a half rupees. The Betel requires a particular kind of soil, much manure, of which milk is a favorite species, much water, and a good deal of care and expense.

Turmerick. Turmerick does not require much manure, but ought to be well watered. It is ready in eight or nine months. The roots are then dug up and boiled, until they become brittle, when they are dried and fit for use.

Plantain. The plantain is extensively cultivated. It is not expensive, but the uses to the Hindoos are numerous. It is propagated from sprouts of the old plants, set in rows, and has a triennial duration.

Tobacco. Tobacco is generally cultivated near villages, or on the sites of old ones. It is propagated from seed, which is first sown in beds, and transplanted. It is ready in seven months.

Ganja

Ganja is also produced in the soil near villages. The leaves, soaked in water, form the intoxicating drink called *Bhung*. The tops are smoked. Ganja, or Canabis Sativa.

Opium is very little cultivated. Opium, &c.

The other garden crops are carrots, onions, radishes, chilies, garlick, yams, ginger, &c.

The *Al*, or morinda citrifiolia, produces from the root, a red dye, in general use. It is cultivated by a tribe of Rajpoots, called *Alkurree*. It is ready in three years. The roots are plucked up, cut in small pieces, and dried for sale. Dyes.

The safflower, or *Koosoom*, is sown and cut with the Rubbee. The flowers are plucked as they are ready, bruised, and formed into a moist powder, made into cakes, and dried. It is common to adulterate it with cotton seed. The seeds produce an oil, but the dye is preferred.

The Til, or sesame, belongs to the Khurreef. When cut, it is tied up in small bundles, and piled in sheaves at the threshing floor, to dry. A cloth is spread, and the seeds shaken into it. When winnowed, they are ready for expressing the oil.

The Utsee, or linseed, is of the Rubbee crop. The seeds are threshed out with a pestle, which prepares them for the mill.

The Erindee, or castor, is ready in the seventh month. When ripe, the heads are cut off and dried. The seed is then taken out, fried, pounded, and boiled; the oil floats on the surface, and is poured off. A cooroo of seed produces two pylees of oil, which is a tenth. There

Oil Mill.

There is nothing peculiar, I believe, in the oil mill of this country, which is worked by two or four bullocks. Monday is always a holiday for the cattle. The wife of the Telee is employed in purchasing the seed, and selling the produce, whilst the husband tends the mill.

Cotton.

Cotton is produced both in the Khurreef and Rubbee seasons. That of the latter is most esteemed. In Deogurh it is generally collected, when ripe, by women, who are rewarded each with the ninth part of what they bring in. Three or four times of collection exhaust the crop, and cattle are turned in to eat up the plant. To work up the thread is the common and universal employment of the women in the houses of the cultivators.

Rotation of crops and fallows.

There is no regular system for rotation of crops or fallows. Wheat is a standard crop, and seldom changed; but it is thought best for Chenna to be alternated with Lakh, every other year, and cotton and Toor with Juwaree; sugar cane changes with turmeric, yams, and carrots, every other year, and Pan requires fresh ground after every crop.

In bringing Rubbee waste land into cultivation, Utsee, or Chenna, are sown the first and second year; or in rice districts, a crop of that grain is first taken, and then the Ulsee or Chenna. In the third year, the land is fit for wheat.

In the Khurreef waste land, rice, and the other small grains, or Juwaree, are cultivated for the first year; but the land is not considered to be at its maximum of fertility until the third year.

Manures.

Manure is principally applied to rice and garden cultivation, and no other crops are irrigated. The manure is either produced from the cultivator's own stock, or purchased from shepherds. Sheep and goats are often

often turned into fields for the night during a month or two. The rate of payment to the shepherd, is a khandee of grain per mensem, for four hundred sheep. The stubble, &c. pared from the fields by the Bukhur, is also burnt, and used as manure.

Excepting the garden lands, and sometimes those near high roads, none of the fields are enclosed. Enclosures.

The uncultivated lands of villages are used and considered as commons for pasture. The taxes, called *Kathaputtee* and *Ghurkaree*, are supposed to be paid for the right of cutting jungle wood. Many grass preserves belong to the Rajah, and those which he does not require, are rented out to Guolees, or others who keep cattle. The boundary banks between fields are also common to the cultivators, both for pasture and passage, whilst the grain is on the ground. The land-marks of villages are stones, which are called *Swarga*, literally *Terminus*. Beo Sen answers to the god *Terminus*, and the stones are worshipped as his representative, in the beginning of every year, when the Pan is distributed to the Ryots. Commons.

It is generally allowed, that a Ryot with a few bullocks, is a more careful cultivator than a wealthy one, as neglect or accident affects him in a greater degree, but a Putel will prefer a wealthy Ryot to a poor one, being more certain of his fulfilling his agreement. General management.

Koonbhees change their places of abode less frequently than any other class of cultivators. After the Koonbhees, the Rajpoot is said to be the most attentive and steadiest farmer. Gonds and Guolees next follows. Captain Cameron has observed, that where Putels fail, considering the

the numbers of the different casts who are Putels, the Koonbhees are very few.

The Ryots are more fixed with them, they seem better calculators of the expenses of management, and to have a more systematic way of employing the different descriptions of land, than the other Putels.

The Putels, of most consequence, in this part of the country, have from ten to twenty ploughs.

Many enquiries have been instituted by the superintendents, for the purpose of ascertaining the profits of agriculture; but the results obtained are two widely different to admit of a satisfactory conclusion being come to on the subject. From the fact, that capital seems to be flowing freely into that channel, we may, however, conclude, that it is employed in agriculture to as great advantage as it could be in any other pursuit, and as the interest on money borrowed and thus inserted, is usually twenty-five per cent., we cannot reckon the returns to capitalists who conduct their own concerns at less, but might safely assume it to be more than at that rate. On the other hand, from the nature of the revenue system, and the readiness with which the Ryots give up their fields, when subjected to increased assessment, it is probable that no great portion of the real rent is left in the hands of the agriculturists.

A simple

A simple enumeration of the different trades in the city of Nagpore, will afford a general view of the degree in which the most civilized part of the population requires, or is furnished with, the chief products of handicraft and manufacturing labour. Trades and Professions.

	Number of Males employed.
Builders, or Masons,	429
Stone cutters,	79
Carpenters,	223
Blacksmiths,	265
Potters, Brick, and Tile makers,	271
Sawyers,	27
Lime-burners,	13
Rope, Twine, and Canvas makers,	114
Bamboo, Basket, and Mat makers,	75
Braziers,	294
Burnishers and Polishers of Metals,	4
Gold and Silversmiths,	356
Cotton-carders,	189
Thread-spinners,	1008
Weavers of cotton stuffs,	4162
Blanket-weavers,	32
Dyers and Printers of cloth,	367
Silk-weavers,	14
Tailors,	286
Makers of Bangles,	198
Oil makers,	1594
Distillers of Spirits,	351
Distillers of Perfumes,	48

Brush

Brush makers,.....	25
Shoe-makers and Tanners,.....	284
Saddlers and Workers in Leather,.....	108
Confectioners,.....	78
Gun-Powder makers,.....	14
Lacker workers,.....	2

Architecture.

The rude and simple habits of the people, from the peasant to the prince, have given little scope to the employment of skill or grandeur in any structures dedicated to private comfort or luxury, and the temples on which those persons, who have at all ventured upon erecting durable buildings, have expended their surplus cash, are neither large nor numerous. The stone-masons of Nagpore are above mediocrity, and excellent materials plentiful. Where, however, the skill of the statuary has been required, it has been usual to have recourse to the artists of Benares, or other noted work-shops of idols, in Hindoostan, either for ready-made images, or for workmen. The modern temples about Nagpore, are far superior to the ancient ones, which are very rude; but none of them come up to the remains of ancient temples in Chutteesgurh, Gurra Mundilla, and Chandah, where some beautiful specimens are to be found, both of architecture and sculpture.

City of Nagpore.

The city of Nagpore, in which, as the residence of a Court, some tolerable specimens of architecture might be looked for, is totally devoid of them. The Rajah's palace is, as it ought to be, the finest edifice at the capital, but it has no pretentions to splendor or beauty, and even the imposing air it might possess, as a large pile of stone masonry, is completely obscured by the encroachments of mud and thatched huts, which are vested under its very walls, and by the unfinished state in which part of it has always been allowed to remain. The lofty pillars of carved

carved wood, which support the roof of the portico at the entrance, and that of the principal courts, are very handsome. Some of the principal chiefs and ministers, and of the bankers, have large houses of brick and mortar, with flat roofs, but they are, for the most part, very old and ruinous. The general state of the capital, in respect to the materials of the buildings, is as follows:

Matted huts of the meanest description.....	48
Thatched huts of a better sort.....	14,680
Tiled houses,.....	11,120
Pucka, or of burnt brick and mortar,.....	1,301
Total,.....	27,149

The site of Nagpore is in a low and originally swampy hollow, which has, in some degree, been improved by the excavation of tanks and water courses, though still very wet and muddy in the rains. It is about seven miles in circumference, but very straggling and irregular in its shape.

The principal streets, except one, are narrow, mean, and dirty, intersected by numerous lanes and water courses, which, in the rains, are sometimes impassable, whilst the number of trees interspersed amongst the houses, and which at a distance, give the city the appearance of a large wood, is by no means favorable either to health or cleanliness. Some few improvements have been lately made in the principal streets, but much remains to be effected; and the habits and prejudices of the people are a great bar to any material amelioration.

Towns and Villages.

The other towns are still worse built; and the streets and lanes even more narrow and filthy, than those of Nagpore. The houses of the more wealthy classes are of brick, with tiled roofs; but those of the greater proportion of the inhabitants are built of mud and loose stones, and covered with straw roofs.

Nothing can be more unprepossessing, than the appearance of the generality of the villages about Nagpore. They consist of clusters of miserable huts, huddled together without any regard to comfort or convenience. The lanes are filled with rubbish and filth of every description, and the approaches are often strewed with the carcases and bones of dead animals, which are never removed. The walls of the houses of the common Kirsans, are built of mud; or stakes are driven into the ground at irregular distances, and the intervals filled up with skreens of split bamboos, stalks of the toor, or the branches of trees, which are plastered over with mud: the roofs are of grass. These huts are generally surrounded by low mud walls, within which the Kirsan keeps his grain and agricultural implements, and ties up his cattle at night. One of these huts costs from two to ten rupees.

Manufactures of Cotton.

The implements and processes of these manufactures, are of the same rude and simple nature which prevail in other parts of India, and which have been often described.

The articles for the common clothing of the peasantry, are made in almost every district, and in Nagpore, and several places in the vicinity, cloths are woven also of a finer texture.

White cotton cloths.

White cloths, called *Bhyrows*, are made by Dhers, or outcast weavers; the finest sell for twenty rupees a piece; the common sorts, at from ten annas

annas to ten rupees. They are from twenty-two to thirty-two cubits long, and from one and a quarter to two broad. The best are those of Nagpore.

Selas are either single webs or double, forming Dooputtees. They are made by Koshtees and Momins, (Hindoo and Moosulman weavers) from one rupee to one hundred rupees a piece, from eighteen to thirty-two cubits long, and from one to two and a half broad. The best are those of Pownee and Chanda. The Selas, generally manufactured, do not exceed thirty rupees in value. The more expensive ones are only made to order.

Turbans cost from one rupee to twenty rupees; are in length from twenty-five to forty cubits, and in breadth from a half to one and a quarter cubits. The best are made at Nagpore.

Doreeas are manufactured of several kinds, Charkhanee, Sillaeedar, and imitations of those of Bengal, &c. from eighteen to thirty-two cubits long, and from one to two and a half broad. They sell from one and a quarter to twenty rupees a piece. These are made principally at Brahmapooree and Pownee.

Patuts, or Sarkees, worn by women, are either plain or striped, with a silk border, from five to forty rupees a piece, from fourteen to eighteen cubits long, and from two and a quarter to three broad. The best plain fabrics are made at Nagpore, the striped also, and at Oomrer.

Dhotees, or the lower garments, worn by Bramans, &c. are generally made with silk, or Selan tissue borders, from seven to eight rupees a pair, and of the value of eighty rupees to order; without such borders, from one rupee to twenty-five rupees. They are in length, from sixteen to twenty-

twenty-two cubits, and in breadth from two to three cubits. The best are those of Nagpore and Oomrer.

The same for children, from one and a quarter to two cubits wide, and from seven to fourteen cubits long, selling at from one and a quarter to twenty-five rupees.

Handkerchiefs, with silk borders, from one and a quarter to three cubits square, and from four annas to ten rupees a piece. The best are made at Nagpore.

Pieces, for women's Cholees, or jackets, with silk borders, from two to three cubits long, by one to one and a quarter wide, sell at from two annas to six and a quarter rupees.

Another coarser cotton cloth, called *Khadee*, is made in considerable quantities, for tent cloth, chintzes, covers, and cloths for the people in general. It is from thirteen to twenty-two cubits long, and from one and a quarter to two wide; from twelve annas to three rupees a piece. This cloth is in considerable repute.

Purum, a coarse fabrick used for native saddle-cloths, horse-cloathing, &c. is made of a superior quality at Chanda, Bhandarah, &c.

Colored cotton cloths.

First.—The colored cotton cloths, called *Panjuree*, are woven of dyed thread, and are of two sorts, the Kucha and Pukka, according as the color is fixed or otherwise.

Selas and turbans, of all colors, are made of the same dimensions as the above. The most expensive are the red, colored with *Koosoom*, or safflower.

safflower. The cheapest color is the brown, prepared from the bark of the mango tree. These are not fixed.

Women's clothes, with a fixed dye, are made of four colors, dark-blue from Indigo, light blue, red from the Al, or morinda, and green. These are manufactured best at Nagpore, and they are to be had of various patterns, and with silk borders, as far as twenty-five rupees each.

Sarhees, for girls, of all colors and patterns, as far as twelve rupees.

Khuns, or pieces for *Cholees*, with silk borders, from two annas to one and a quarter rupee.

Coarse chintzes, and a kind of red *Kharwa*, called *Shendree*, are also made and exported. The chintzes of Chanda, are much worn in Gondwana and Berar by the women.

Second.—Cloths dyed after being manufactured, are not prepared for sale in this country.

There are the following goods manufactured at Nagpore, some of silk, and some of silk and cotton, or the wild silk, called Tusur, mixed. Silk goods.

Those of mixed silk and cotton, are women's cloths or *Sarhees*, called *Sillaree*, from five to twenty-five rupees each.

Other women's cloths, some of silk and Tusur mixed, and some of the latter and cotton, are also made at Moharee and Khapuh, of from three to twenty-four rupees value.

The silk goods are *Petumbers*, both for women and men, from four to thirty rupees, for the former, and to twenty for the men. They were formerly also made with Kulubutoon, or gold or silver tissue, to the value of five-hundred rupees, to order.

The weavers of these goods are from Julnah and Puttun, and their works are imitations of the valuable fabricks of those places.

Dooputtas, for women, are also made at Nagpore of silk with rich Kulubutoon borders, as far as five-hundred rupees. They are generally worn in pairs, of different colors, by Hindoo women of rank.

The common *Dhotee Johras* and *Sarhees*, are much worn by all classes of Hindoos and Marhattas in the Deccan. The peculiar quality of *Dhotee Johras*, made in the city, and for which they are so much prized, is the extreme fineness of the thread, which is spun exclusively by the Dhers, and finds employment to upwards of four hundred families. The weavers are all Koshtees, and the number of their families is estimated at about two-hundred and seventy.

The cloth manufacture was brought to its present state of excellence, by the exertions of the late Raghojee, who, during the great famine that raged in the Deccan after the war of 1803, induced many of the best workmen at Pytum, in the Godavery, and Zynabad and Boorhanpore, on the Taptee, to come and settle at Nagpore. From these men, the Nagpore weavers learnt the art of weaving the beautiful silk and gold and silver borders, at the same time with the cloth, and which makes the *Sarhees*, &c. so expensive.

Woollen cloths.

The woollen cloths manufactured in the country, are only coarse blankets

blankets and Numdahs, for domestic use, of one and two rupees each.

The only cloth manufactured from Sun, or hemp, is the coarse *Tatputtee* used for grain bags, *Sulleetahs*, &c. It is made in pieces of thirty cubits long, and half a cubit wide, and sells at eight and twelve annas. The Brinjarries make their own of a better quality than they can purchase it. Hempen cloths.

Utensils of copper and mixed metal, are made principally at Bhundarah, Ruttenpore, and Chandah; and the Kusars, or braziers, who manufacture them, have also long enjoyed an exclusive right of selling such articles in the country. Other manufactures.

The internal commerce of the country is but trifling. It consists chiefly of imports into the city of Nagpore, of the common necessaries of life, together with cloths of different descriptions, partly for the consumption of the inhabitants, and partly for exportation. Commerce. Internal trade.

The amount of grain imported in the last year, is estimated at fifty-nine thousand cart loads, containing about one hundred and seventy-seven thousand Khundees, the value of which, at the lowest estimation, is upwards of seven lacks of rupees.

The country receives from Nagpore articles of prime necessity, imported from foreign countries; such as salt, saltpetre, sulphur, metals, cocoa-nuts, spices, &c. with cloths both of city and foreign manufacture.

The imports consist of salt, brought by Brinjarrees from Berar and the Concan, for the use of Deogurh, and from the Eastern coasts, for Chutteesgurh and Chanda. Foreign trade. Imports.

From

From Mirzapore, shawls, Kincaubs, silks, both raw and wrought, muslins of kinds, from Dacca, piece goods and chintzes, raw sugar and sugar-candy, indigo, and Kirana, which term includes spices and drugs of all kinds.

From Bundelkhund, red Kharwas, piece goods, manufactured in Bundelkund, a small quantity of sugar, and Kirana, and salt petre.

From Bombay, Europe and China goods, pearls, corals, and salt.

From Poonah and Aurungabad, bullion, in coin and bars, principally the former: vessels and metals of all kinds sandal-wood, scents, spices, drugs, and numurous other articles.

Exports. The exports consist of cloths, raw cotton, Goor, grain, and a small quantity of stick lac.

Principal traders. The trade with Mirzapore and Benares, in silks, brocades, muslins, &c. is chiefly in the hands of Gosaeens residing in Nagpore. They possessed much influence in the time of Raghojee, and many of them were men of great wealth; but they have been, for some years, on the decline, together with the trade which was first established by them. Formerly, not only the quantity of articles in which they dealt, required for consumption here, but nearly all that was consumed in the country south and west of Nagpore, passed through their hands, in consequence of the route by Sirgoojah and Chutteesgurh, being safer than that by Rewah and Jubbulpore; but the restoration of general tranquillity that followed the suppression of the Pindaries, and other plunderers, induced the merchants of our provinces to resume the old route by Mirzapore, Rewah and Jubbulpore, and thence to Oomrawtee direct; and this diversion of the transit trade, following

followed up by the general depression of commerce, nearly put an end to this branch of trade. However it still exists, though in a trifling degree.

The principal traders in indigo, sugar, and *Kirana* from the northward, together with *Kharwas* and *Chintzes* manufactured in Bundelkhund, are the Chutterpoorias, who are agents of mercantile houses in Chutterpore and Mhow, in Bundelkhund. The trade formerly was a profitable one, when the communication with the chief marts in the Deccan was through Nagpore. It has much declined since the route was changed to that of Omrawtee.

The traffick in Europe and China goods, pearls, corals, &c. from Bombay and Surat, is in the hands of the Bohras, numbers of whom are settled at Boorhanpore, on the Taptee, which is the great entrepot for the trade carried on by them, between Nagpore and the Western coast. It never was an exclusive one, and is probably as flourishing now if not more so, than it ever was, as Europe merchandize, of all kinds, is now wholly imported by them from Bombay.

The trade with the Eastern coast is carried on by Ooreeya Goomashtas, of mercantile houses in Cuttack and Juggennauth. It was formerly of considerable importance, but is now at a very low ebb.

Bullion trade.

The bullion traffick with Aurungabad and Omrawtee is carried on by the bankers. It has increased considerably during the last and current year, and is one of their principal speculations. The Nagpore rupee, of the new coinage, is exported; and the Shumsheree and Hyderabad rupees imported, refined, and run into bars, from which Nagpore rupees are coined. The Nagpore rupee is required by the Omrawtee merchants, for the purchase of cotton from this country, and the districts ceded in 1818 to

 the

the Company. The profit in each transaction, seldom exceeds eight annas per cent., but when it is considered that the returns are made repeatedly during the twelve months, it is rather a lucrative speculation.

The bullion trade with Poona depends on the rate of exchange between the two cities. The specific value of the Poona rupee is from thirteen and a half to thirteen and three quarters per cent. better than the Nagpore rupee; the charges for insurance and carriage from Poona to Nagpore, are two and a half per cent., and a further expence of about six annas per cent. is incurred in agency and brokerage of bills. Whenever, therefore, the exchange from Poona, which generally fluctuates from twelve to fourteen per cent. premium, falls below ten per cent. premium, they are bought up and their amounts brought to Nagpore, in specie; and this event commonly occurs once a year, when the Poona and Punderpore merchants arrive, for the purpose of laying in their investments of cloth for the marts in the Deccan.

The cloths destined for exportation, are generally purchased from the manufacturers early in the season, by the *Purwars*, an industrious people of the *Jain* sect, by whom it is subsequently sold to the Poona and Punderpore merchants.

The internal trade of the country is chiefly carried on by native Marhatta trades, of various cases.

Carriage. For carrying on commercial intercourse, wheel carriages are in general use between Chutteesgurh, Chanda, and Nagpore; bullocks are the common carriage between Nagpore, Gurra Mundilla and Seeone, Hussingabad; for more distant external commerce, buffaloes are occasionally used.

The

The bullocks, in this part of the country, carry about three quarter of a Kundee, of all kinds of grains. In *Kirana*, ten maunds of ten seers, each seer of eighty Nagpore rupees. In cotton cloths, twenty Chowkurees, of eight pieces each. In raw cotton, twelve maunds of ten seers. The wheel carriages, drawn by two bullocks, carry generally two and a half bullock loads, which is the standard by which the goods thus carried are assessed for duties.

The bullocks from Mirzapore and Patna, carry double of the loads of those of this country, and buffaloes one and a half bullock loads.

Asses, which are employed in the neighbouring districts, carry half a bullock load.

Value of the imports and exports.

Of the value of imports and exports, no satisfactory information can be given.

Shawls, silks, muslins, and piece goods, to the value of three hundred and twenty thousand rupees, were imported into the City of Nagpore, during the last year, of which two hundred and sixty-five thousand rupees worth was subsequently exported to the Nizam's territories.

The value of sugar, imported in the same year, into the city, was forty-two thousand rupees.

Of Europe goods, there were imported into Nagpore, during the last year—

50	pieces of	Broad cloths.
333	„	Handkerchiefs.
340	„	Flowered muslin.
50	„	Plain muslin.

165 pieces .....Long cloth.

200 „ .....Chintzes of various kinds,

and a quantity of cutlery, glass-ware, and small mirrors, &c.

Bullion, to the amount of about three hundred thousand of rupees, was brought from Poona, and the value of cocoa-nuts imported from the eastern coast, was forty-five thousand rupees.

Exports.

Of the value of Goor and grain, which are the chief articles of raw produce exported, no estimate can be formed. A small quantity of raw cotton goes directly to Mirzapore. The value of cloths exported was about seven hundred and twenty five thousand rupees last year, of which one hundred and fifty thousand were sent to the Paishwa's camp at Bittoor; three hundred and fifty thousand to Oomrawtee, Poona, &c.; fifty thousand to Indoor, one hundred thousand to Jubbulpore and Sagur, and seventy-five thousand to Hyderabad.

The kinds of cloths exported are *Sarhees*, *Pugrees*, *Dhoteejoras*, *Selas*, and handkerchiefs, manufactured in the city of Nagpore, and other districts in the province of Deogurh.

Banking transactions

Most of the Sahookars in this part of the country, are Marwarries. There are only two banking houses in the city, conducted by Bramins.

It is difficult to enumerate and describe their various speculations. As bankers and Shroffs, generally, their profits arise.

First, from the purchase or receipt upon the spot, in the course of their trade, of gold and silver coins, which they sell or pass at a dearer rate than that at which they receive them.

Secondly,

Secondly, from the importation from other quarters, of gold, silver, and copper coins, bullion and ornaments, which they dispose of at a profit.

Thirdly, from granting bills on other quarters.

Fourthly, from interest on loans.

Fifthly, from taking objectionable rupees at a discount, and re-selling them on more favourable terms.

Sixthly, from the fluctuation in the current value of copper coins and couries, for which purpose they have Dookauns, kept by people, who are employed by them as Khoordceas, or dealers in small change.

The profits of the inferior classes of Mahajuns, Buneeas and Soonars, as connected with the money market, are derived from more limited transactions of the nature specified, but their interest in loans is higher.

As traders, the Sahookars sell merchandize of various kinds, both in the country and at a distance. They deal principally in the Mirzapore goods. They purchase the produce of the country, and export it. They also buy up grain when it is cheap, and sell it at an advanced price, generally, in the rains. They have also numerous Dookauns for the sale of all sorts of articles. This is practised by even the most wealthy. Property is often given to them, either in pawn or in payment, for debts, which they are obliged to dispose of in the bazars, for which purpose these Dookauns are almost necessary.

Their country business is, besides the common affairs of money

 changing,

changing, to advance cash or grain to Putels and Ryots. For the latter purpose, some have large stores of grain, for the loan of which they take twenty-five per cent. for eight months, the time of repayment being usually at the harvest. They also trade in the produce and manufactures of the country, and lend money to artizans and mechanics.

Rate of Interest.

Formerly the rate of interest was higher than it now is. Under Rughojee and Appa Sahib, the general rate on money lent on common security, was three and four per cent. per mensem, and never less than two, on the best security, or pledges given to the full amount of the sum advanced, besides a deduction of two, three, and sometimes four per cent. from the amount of the loan.

Usually, the highest interest in the present day, is two per cent. on good security, or pledges given. To Putels and Ryots, the terms are commonly two per cent. a month, and two per cent. deducted from the original sum; but to artisans, and mechanics of the lower classes, they are more unfavorable, being three or four per cent. a month, or even more.

Khoordeeas, or small money changers, either trade for themselves, or are employed by Shroffs, and get a per centage on their transactions. These people exchange copper and couries for rupees, and take every advantage of the inexperienced and unwary. They purchase the copper coin and couries, accumulated in their day's traffick by persons who sell vegetables, fire-wood, and other trifling articles, at a low rate, and retail them again at an advanced price. If a poor weaver has been disappointed in the sale of his cloth, a Khoordeea will, perhaps, receive it from him in pawn, and if the cloth be worth fifteen rupees, will advance him ten, and on each rupee will demand from half a pice to one pice of couries, interest, every eight days, or from one and a half to three per cent.

cent. He will also lend cash, in a small way, to the poorer classes, at similar rates of interest.

Traffick in Hoondees.

The traffick in Hoondees was formerly restricted to two, or at most, three houses, the individuals of which possessed great influence with the Rajah, and were exempt from his depredations. The Sahookars, in general, were deterred from keeping in their houses, the large sums of ready money required to carry on this species of trade with advantage. Now, all the respectable bankers and other individuals, speculate deeply in these transactions, notwithstanding the profit arising therefrom have been considerably reduced, owing to competition, and the extreme facility afforded by our regular Dawks of obtaining knowledge daily, of the state of the money market, in all the principal commercial cities connected with Nagpore.

It is quite impracticable to state with accuracy, the amount of bills drawn during a twelve month, by the bankers in the city or other places. Nearly the whole of this business is in the hands of the Marwarrees, and two or three of the most intelligent individuals of that body have stated, that fifty lacs may be assumed as the average amount, one-half of which is drawn on Benares, a quarter on Poona, and the remaining fourth in Calcutta, Bombay, Jypoor, Hyderabad and other places. Of the twenty-five lacs drawn on Benares, from twelve to fifteen may be considered as drawn for mercantile purposes; one lac in favor of pilgrims from the Deccan, to the holy places on the Ganges, and the remainder as speculations in exchange.

The twelve and half lacs on Poona, are wholly speculations in exchange. The commercial transactions between Nagpore, and that city consist chiefly, if not wholly, in exports of cloths, the manufacture of this

this country, and to purchase these, the Poona merchants, or agents on their part, resort annually to Nagpore, furnished with money or bills in Poona, the amount of the investment required.

Of the remaining fourth, drawn on Calcutta, Bombay, and other places, the greatest part is on account of remittances. The portion drawn on Hyderabad, which is from two to three lacs, may be considered as speculations in exchange.

General reflections on the past and present state of trade.

Nagpore could never, at any period, have been considered as ranking high in the scale of commercial cities; and its trade and manufactures, have decreased since the years 1817 and 1818.

This decline, which should be viewed in some degree, as temporary, may be attributed chiefly to the great and sudden reduction in the amount of the population of the city and its environs, in the period above stated, when Appa Sahib was deposed, and our influence in the Government established. The word "population" is not meant to define only the native inhabitants of the city, but to comprehend the numerous bodies of armed men, which, in the short reign of Appa Sahib, and in that of his predecessor, were constantly assembled near the capital. The dispersion of these hordes, on the introduction by us of order and good Government, necessarily diminished the consumption of produce, as well of the land as of the loom.

The expenses likewise of the Court, in former times, in the purchase of shawls, Kincobs, muslins, and other valuable articles of foreign manufactures, were, comparatively speaking, very great; being about three-fourths of the whole quantity imported. The reduced state of all the public establishments, in the present day, does not require, and the well-regulated

regulated economy of the finances will not admit of such lavish expenditure; consequently, the importation of those articles has greatly decreased, and the quantity that continues to be brought to market is principally for re-exportation.

The cloth manufacture also suffered severely by the extinction of the Poona state. Formerly, the exports of cloths (manufactured in the city and country adjacent) to Poona alone, amounted annually to from twelve to fourteen lacs of rupees; at present, the exports to that place do not exceed three lacs, and about one and a half lac to Bittoo, for the use of Bajee Rao and his adherents.

The resolution in 1818, however, is admitted to have been highly acceptable to the Sahookars, or bankers. It is true, that the profits acquired by a few of the wealthiest of this class, under the former reigns, in their dealings with the chiefs of the Bhooslah's armies, were very great; but they were obliged to conciliate the Rajah, especially the late Rughojee, by large sums advanced as loans, that were seldom if ever wholly repaid, and although they generally received something like an equivalent in a lucrative contract, or in the purchase of their merchandize by the Sircar, at an advanced price, yet these advantages were counterbalanced by the lamentable want of security for personal property, from the tyranny and caprice of the ruler.

Rughojee, in particular, hesitated not to resort to the most iniquitous means to obtain money, when he required it, even to the length of directing Dakkas to be committed on the houses of individuals possessing, for the time, a large sum of money, (of such events he had certain information from his spies) and who had declined the honor of becoming his Highness' creditors.

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These, and other evils nearly as great, were completely suppressed on our assuming the management of affairs, and it is natural to conclude that a change of Government which introduced order and tranquillity throughout the state, and gave perfect security to all property, must be hailed with satisfaction by the monied men, notwithstanding the same change destroyed the source from whence they derived their former great, though precarious gains; and the confidence placed by this class in our Government, is exemplified by the fact of fifteen banking houses, principally Marwarres, and four or five of great wealth and respectability, having been established in the city since the year 1818.

SECTION FOURTH.

HISTORY.

THE countries now forming the state of Nagpore have, at different times, been subject to different rulers. It is probable that at a remote period, a great portion of the northern part was subject to the Rajahs of Gondwanah, who reigned at Kherlah, near Baitool, and we subsequently find the tract above the Ghauts, possessed by petty Rajahs of the Gond tribe, tributary to, or dependent on the Princes of Gurra Mundilla, until the latter were overturned by the Mooselmans, in Akbar's reign. Of the districts between the Wurda and the Lanjhee hills, some portion was subject to Rajahs of the tribe of Gowleers, or herdsmen; some fell under the Mooselman rulers of the Deckan, and the greater portion of them was subdued by the Gond Rajahs of Deogurh.

The origin of that family, and the steps by which it rose to eminence, are involved in obscurity. Previously, however, to the reign of Bukht Boolund, who was a contemporary of Aurengzebe, they had made considerable progress towards the subjugation of the country below the Ghats.

Ghats. Bukht Boolund, who had turned Mooselman, to secure the aid of the Moghul officers, in establishing himself as Rajah of Deogurh, made great additions to his possessions in the same direction, and settled both the old and new conquests with great success. The country immediately above Nagpore is said, at that time, to have been in a very wild state. The spot upon which the city of Nagpore now stands, was occupied by twelve small hamlets, known by the name of Rajahpore Barsah. The principal streets of the city are built on the sites of these small hamlets, and are still known by their old names. The districts to the north-east of Nagpore, and others on the Wyne Gunga, especially Pownee, were better cultivated, and some of the towns were respectable, both for their manufactures and for general trade.

1700, A. D. Bukht Boolund usually remained in the districts above the Ghats, except when prosecuting his military expeditions. Towards the latter end of Aurengzebe's reign, or after his death, he plundered in Berar, and extended his devastations over the districts held by the Moghuls, to the southward and westward of Nagpore. The Gond Rajahs, up to this time, it appears, paid a tribute to the Emperor of Delhi, and an officer resided at one of the hamlets above described, on the part of the Foujdar of Pownar, which was the chief seat of the Mooselman Government, east of the Wurda, for the purpose of collecting it.

Chand Sooltan, who was the next Rajah, is said to have encouraged agriculture, and during his reign the Choute was levied by Kanojee Bhooslah, and other Mahratta officers. Chand Sooltan resided principally at Nagpore, which he made his capital, and built a wall round it.

On the death of Chand Sooltan, the Government was usurped by Wullee

Wullee Shah, an illegitimate son of Bukht Boolund, and soon afterwards, Rughojee Bhoosla was called in by the widow of Chand Sooltan, to expel the usurper, and secure the Rauje to her sons Akber Shah and Boorhan Shah.

The early history of the Nagpore branch of the Bhooslah family, or tribe, is obsure. The present members of the family do not profess to trace their origin above Moodhojee, the great grand-father of the founder of the Nagpore state, and their pretensions to a defined relationship with the first sovereigns of the Mahratta empire, have either fallen into oblivion, or were never seriously believed. Rughojee Bhooslah, 1st.

Moodhojee's sons were Bappoojee, Pursojee, and Subujee, contemporaries of the great Sewajee, and in his military service. Pursojee only was distinguished, and under Suhoo Rajah, he was intrusted with an extensive military command, and the collection of Choute in Berar.

He died about the year 1709 A. D. and was suceeded by his son Kanojee, who fixed his residence at Bhaum, in Berar. 1709, A. D

Rughojee Bhoosla was the son of Beembujee, the third son of Bappojee, the brother of Pursojee. He was born about the year 1698 A. D. at his father's village of Pandowaree, near Poona. He served for some years with his relation Kanojee, who, it is said, at one time proposed to adopt him as his heir, but on a son being born to him, Rughojee quitted his service in disgust, and remained for a short time with Chand Sooltan at Nagpore. From thence he went to Suttarah, and was pitched upon as a fit person to supplant Kanojee, who had rendered himself obnoxious at Court. Rughojee's appointment to Berar is generally referred to the year 1731, A. D, though the earliest orders in the records, for the collection of 1698, A. D. 1731, A. D.

the Choute of Berar and Gondwanah, directed to Rughojee, are dated
1738, A. D. in 1737, A. D. to which were added, the year following, more extensive predatory commissions, including Bengal, Behar, Oude, &c.

It was in this year, that Rughojee came to Nagpore, and having put Wullee Shah to death, and set up Boorhan Shah and Akber Shah, the two legitimate sons of Chand Sooltan, he concluded a treaty with them, by which he received eleven lacs of rupees, and several districts on the Wyne Gunga, as the price of his assistance, and was appointed the organ of all communication between the Gonds and the Government of Suttarah. Rughojee returned for the present to Berar.

1740, A. D. Establishes the Mahratta authority in Cuttack.

In the year 1740, occurred Rughojee's expedition to the Carnatic and immediately after commenced that series of expeditions to Bengal, which terminated, after a contest of ten years, in the acquisition to the Mahrattas of Cuttuk, and the promise of twelve lacs annually from Alliverdy Khan, as the Choute of Bengal.

1743, A. D. In Deogurh.

About the year 1743, a perfidious Dewan having excited dissentions between the brothers, Boorhan Shah and Akber Shah, the Marhattas were called in to the aid of the former, whilst the latter was supported by the Gonds. Ackber Shah was forced to fly to Hyderabad, the Gonds who sided with him being hunted down and massacred without mercy. Rughojee then became protector, established himself at Nagpore as his capital, and gradually subdued the whole of Deogurh. He kept up the forms of Boorhan Shah's authority, and gave him a fixed share of the collections.

The Mahratta authority was partially established in Chutteesgurh, during Bhasker Pundit's first expedition to Bengal, in 1741-2. It is uncer-

tain

tain whether before this period the Mahrattas ever penetrated into Chutteesgurh which was governed by two Rajahs of the old Ruttunpore family, termed, by the inhabitants of the country, Hyhy Bunsees, whose respective residences were at Ruttunpore and Rypore. The first settlement involved only a tribute, but in 1745, the Rajah of Ruttunpore was deposed, and by the year 1755, the Mahratta yoke was extended over the whole of Chutteesgurh and Sumbulpore, and the other surrounding Zemindaries were rendered tributary. 1745, A. D. 1755, A. D.

The Rajahs of Chandah, as well as those of Deogurh, were Gonds, and paid a Peshkush to the Moghuls, and the Mahratta claims had been established, which Rughojee levied. Neelkunth Shah, the Rajah, had assisted Kanojee, and afterwards Akber Shah. Pretences were not wanting, and internal dissentions opened a door for Rughojees' interference. 1749, A. D. In Chandah.

The Fort of Chandah was delivered up to Rughojee, by the treachery of a Dewan, and after some fighting, a treaty of partition was concluded in 1749, between him and Neelkunth Shah as follows:

From 110 Rupees,

Rughojee Bhooslah, ...		Neelkunth Shah,	
Sudermookhee, ...	10	Swusthanik,....	37 8
Choute,.....	25		
Brother's share,.....	37 8		
	72 8		

In 1751, the Fort and Town of Chanda were finally ceded to Rughojee, and the Rajah became a prisoner. 1751, A. D.

In

In his ambition to extend his conquests on the side of Berar, during the disturbances which attended the French interference in the affairs of Hyderabad, Rughojee drew upon himself the united forces of
1754, A. D. Sullabut Jung and Bussy in 1754. The result of the war was disastrous to him, and would have been more so, had not Bussy been anxious to visit some newly acquired districts in the Northern Circars. This misfortune was in some measure compensated by the acquisition of the fortress of Gawilgurh, which was made over to Rughojee by a Gond chief; and the absence of the French prevented the terms of the treaty which had been imposed upon him from being enforced.

1755, A. D. Rughojee died at Nagpore in February or March 1755. He is said to have been about 57 years of age.

The amount of his revenue cannot be accurately given. The countries in his dominion, or paying him tribute, may be generally described as extending east and west from the Bay of Bengal to the Adjuntah Hills, and north and south from the Nerbudda to the Godavery. His army was principally composed of horse. His standing force was about fifteen thousand, but liable to be augmented every year, according to the exigencies of the moment.

Janojee Bhooslah. Rughojee left four sons, Janojee, Sabajee, Moodhojee and Beembajee. He was succeeded by his eldest son Janojee. The succession, however, was disputed by Moodhojee, excited to opposition by the Peshwa, who was jealous of the rapid rise of the Nagpore state. Moodhojee was worsted in some encounters with his brother, and the matter was referred to Poona, whither both brothers were summoned. They joined
1756, A. D. the Peshwa on the expedition to Savanore in 1756, and the dispute was afterwards thus settled. Janojee was confirmed in the title of Sena Sahib

Sahib Soobah, and the Government of Nagpore. To Moodhojee were given, as an appanage, Chanda and Chutteesgurh, with some districts in Berar.

The Government of Berar has now been conferred by Sullabut Jung, on Nizam Allee Khan, who resisted the Mahratta encroachments in that province, and brought Janojee to a treaty in 1757, defining their respective rights with some degree of minuteness. 1757, A.D.

A temporary breach with Nizam Allee took place in 1758, but Janojee was defeated in his aims, and he seems to have turned his whole attention to the improvement of his dominions, for some time after this affair was settled. Moodhojee, on the contrary, was improvident, and rapacious, and ruined both his country and himself. He left Chanda in the hands of his creditors, and went with Raghonauth Rao to Hindoostan.

In the war between Ballajee and the Nizam, in the beginning of 1760, both Janojee and Moodhojee were in the Peshwa's camp, with their respective contingents, and the former accompanied the Peshwa to the Nerbuddah, but returned to Nagpore before the battle of Panniput. 1761, A.D.

The effect of this reverse was to induce the Court of Poona to conciliate Janojee, for the purpose of opposing the Nizam, who was preparing to take advantage of Madhoo Rao's minority; and there is a treaty on record, by which the Sirdesmookee of Berar is ceded to Janojee, who is also empowered to seize his brother Moodhojee's appanage, and to appropriate the whole of Berar, when conquered from the Nizam. It does not appear, however, that Janojee took any part in the war, which terminated in the Nizam dictating a peace, almost at the gates of Poona. On the contrary, about this time, Janojee formed an alliance with Nizam 1762, A.D.

Allee, who had now confined Sullabut Jung in the fort of Beder. The object of this alliance was to obtain for Janojee the office of Peshwa. They together sacked and burnt the city of Poona. This was followed
1763, A. D. by the battle of Rakshes-bhoowun, in which, owing to the treachery of Janojee, Nizam Allee was defeated, and his minister, Prutaubwunt, was killed.

Janojee hoped, by this perfidy, to recover the good will of the Court of Poona, but Madhoo Rao could not forget the sack of Poona; and as soon as he had made peace with Hyder, in 1765, he directed his attention towards Janojee, and he found the Nizam equally disposed to punish him.

The confederates advanced to the Wurda, and Nagpore was burnt. Janojee obtained peace, however, on his submission, but he still continued to withhold his quota of troops, and to carry on intrigues with Rughonauth Rao. In 1768, accordingly, Madhoo Rao again entered Berar; and advanced as far as Nagpore. Janojee left his own dominions, and made forced marches to surprise Poona. In this he was unsuccessful, and,
1769, A. D. he concluded a treaty of peace in April, 1769.

In this treaty, Janojee's dependence upon the Peshwa is fully acknowledged. He is to furnish his quota of six thousand men, and to attend the Peshwa in person, whenever required. He is to pay an annual Nezr of five lacs of rupees; to enter into no general negotiation with foreign powers, and to make no war without the Peshwa's sanction.

1770, A. D. In 1770, Sabajee was sent with Janojee's contingent, to attend Mudhoo Rao, in the war against Hyder, and in the following year, Janojee went in person to Poona, to obtain the concurrence of the Peshwa, in the adoption of Rughojee, the eldest son of Moodhojee, as his successor

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This adoption had been for some time past resolved on, and seems to have formed the cement of the good understanding which had subsisted between Janojee and Moodhojee, during the most difficult periods of the late wars with the Peshwa and the Nizam.

The Peshwa's assent to this arrangement had been obtained, and Janojee was on his return to Nagpore, when he was taken suddenly ill at a small village, near Tooljapoor, on the Godavery, and died in the beginning of May, 1772, A. D. 1772, A. D.

As a politician, Janojee was not a successful ruler, though he made some additions to his dominions on the side of Berar. He seems to have overacted his part towards both the Peshwa and the Nizam, and to have ended by making them unanimous in their hostility towards him. His internal civil arrangements did him more credit, and he has the reputation of having settled what his father had only conquered, and of being the best of the Mahratta rulers of the Nagpore family.

Before Moodhojee, with his son Rughojee, could reach Nagpore, Sabajee Bhoosla, by the contrivance of Deria Baee, Janojee's widow, and the principal ministers of the state, had assumed the Government; and written to Poona for a confirmation of their proceedings; and whether from superior advantages being promised on the part of Sabajee, or from his character appearing better suited to the situation of a dependent Chief, than that of Moodhojee, the Court of Poona did not hesitate to set aside the arrangement, which Madhoo Rao had so recently sanctioned. At home, he was opposed by Deria Baee, who had acquired so much influence during Janojee's life-time, that she was hardly dreaded less than himself. As Moodhojee had lived separate from his brother at Chanda, and had his own Court and ministers, the interests of the old servants of Janojee

Sabajee Bhooslah. 1772, A. D.

Janojee were also at stake, should affairs fall into Moodhojee's hands, who claimed to act as regent during the minority of his son. At the head of the opposition was Dewakur Pundit, who had mortally offended Moodhojee during his brother's life-time, and naturally dreaded retaliation.

Moodhojee was at first unable to resist the combination against him, and retired to Chanda; but on the death of Madhoo Rao, and the accession of Raghonauth Rao to power, as the guardian of Narrain Rao, he prepared to assert his claim. He was defeated by Sabajee and Deria Baee, near Akolah, in Berar, and to prevent further bloodshed, the Mahratta,
1773, A. D. Chiefs on each side, interfered to establish a reconciliation, the terms of which were negotiated through the Peshwa's Vakeel, and guaranteed by the Chiefs in question. By this treaty, Rughojee was adopted by Deria Baee, and Sabajee and Moodhojee were jointly to exercise the Government.

The reconciliation on such terms, (as might be expected) was of short duration, and we find Deria Baee herself, soon after ranged on the side of Moodhojee. The Nizam came in to the assistance of Sabajee, and Moodhojee was hard pressed, until the murder of Narrain Rao called off
August, 1773, A. D. the attention of the Court of Hyderabad to a more interesting scene. Moodhojee now took the side of Raghonauth Rao, and Sabajee that of the ministerial party, and each joined the contending armies then in the field. Raghonauth Rao was soon borne down by the combination against him, and fled to Boorhanpoor. Moodhojee had shared in his disasters, and came to Ellichpore destitute of every thing. Deria Baee had deserted his cause for that of Sabajee and being suspected of an intention again to change her party, she was seized and her camp was plundered by a party of the Nizam's troops at Boorhanpore, by the contrivance of Sabajee who at the same time, got possession of Rughojee whom she had detained from his father.

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With the aid of Ismael Khan, the Nabob of Ellichpore, and joined by a small but veteran force under Mahommed Yoosuf, one of the murderers of Narrain Rao, Moodhojee was enabled to take the field after the rains of 1774, and the battle of Panchgong, near Nagpore, which ended in Sabajee's death by the hand of his brother, in a moment of apparent victory, confirmed the nominal designation of Rajah, with the title of Sena Saheb Soobah, to Rughojee, and the real power with the inferior title of Sena Dhoorundher, to Moodhojee. January 1775, A. D.

As soon as the mourning for Sabajee had expired, Moodhojee seated his son Rughojee on the musnud, and employed himself in settling the affairs of the Government, which had fallen into some confusion. With some exceptions, he confirmed in their offices the ministers of Sabajee, but he confined Dewakur Pundit, whom, however, he was shortly afterwards compelled to release, as the only person qualified to restore order to his finances, particularly to make peace with the Nizam and Peshwa. Peace with the Nizam was accomplished with the loss of the fort of Amnere, and some other places in Berar. To complete his reconciliation with the ruling party at Poona, he submitted to a sacrifice which must ever stain his name with the charges of perfidy and ingratitude—the sacrifice of Mahommed Yoosuf, whom he seized and delivered up to the Poona ministers. Moodhojee Bhoosla, 1775, A. D.

He seems to have taken little or no part in the stormy politics of the day, and his reconciliation with the Poona ministers was not cordial. In the end of 1776, the death of the Rajah of Mundillah, induced him to prepare an army to invade that country, to which he advanced a claim, founded on some former sunnuds from Poona, giving away, as usual, what was not theirs to bestow; but which were sufficient in the eyes of Mahrattas, to sanction any violation of the rights of other chiefs or states. 1776, A.D.

To secure the acquiescence of the Peshwa in his views, he sent his son, Rughojee, with Dewakur Pundit, to Poorundhur, in January 1777; nothing, however, of consequence resulted from this embassy, and more important matters soon after intervened, to divert his attention.

1777, A. D. An alliance with the state of Nagpore had long been the object of the Bengal Presidency, and some advances had been made to it, under Lord Clive, in the reign of Janojee. Sabajee had sent a Vakeel to Calcutta, in 1773, and through the same person, named Benee Ram Pundit, a confidential intercourse had been established by Mr. Hastings, both with Moodhojee, and with his minister Dewakur Pundit. Lord Clive had endeavored to obtain Cuttack from Janojee, but without success; nor was Mr. Hastings' proposal to rent a tract of country along that coast, more acceptable to Moodhojee. Still the forms of confidence were kept up by Moodhojee, and Mr. Hastings hoped that he would enter cordially into the war now commencing in support of Rughoba.

To communicate with the Court of Nagpore, Mr. Elliot was despatched from Calcutta, and on his untimely death, his powers were transferred to Colonel Goddard. Moodhojee gave every assistance to the march of Goddard's detachment, in hopes of obtaining Hoosengabad and Mundilla, through its assistance, but he was backward in assenting to Mr. Hastings' general plans in favor of Rughoba, which were somewhat at variance with his own pretensions.

Moodhojee's neutrality was a great point gained to the British Government; but his conduct having rendered him suspected to the Poona
1779, A. D. ministers, and negociations for peace occurring with Goddard, Moodhojee sent Dewakur Pundit, in June 1779, to Poona. The pacific discussions having terminated, Dewakur Pundit concluded a treaty in the name of his

his master, with the Peshwa, in September 1779, in which Moodhojee engaged to invade Bengal, and in reward for this service, when duly performed, Mundilla was to be conferred, as a military fief of the Poona state, on his son Chimnujee Bhooslah, with the title of Sena Buhadoor. This was part of a confederacy between the Marhattas, the Nizam and Hyder, for the subversion of the British power.

Moodhojee performed his part, in sending Chimnujee with a large army to Cuttack, where, however, he did not arrive until late in May, 1780, precluding any operations for that season. Every part of his proceedings was made known by Moodhojee, to Mr. Hastings, with assurances, that he would do nothing against the English, to which he was not forced by a regard to appearances and his own safety. At this time, the defeat of Colonel Baillie's detachment, the retreat of the army under General Munro, and the desperate state of affairs on the coast of Coromandel, rendered it necessary that every other object should give place to the preservation of the Carnatic. Under these circumstances, Mr. Hastings did not hesitate to buy off Moodhojee, and as the latter had entered into the war, chiefly to save his credit at Poona, and with the subsidiary view of making the most of circumstances, he did not refuse the compromise. Being, moreover, disgusted at the want of confidence shewn towards him by the Poona ministers, in settling the affair of Mundilla, the sunnuds for which were still withheld, Chimnujee not only gave a free passage to Colonel Pearse's detachment, but, in a treaty dated 6th April, 1781, agreed to leave Orissa, for the sum of thirteen lacs of rupees paid down, and a loan of ten more promised, with our aid to put him in possession of Gurra Mundilla, and to furnish two thousand horse, at the expence of the Company, to act against Hyder. Dewakur Pundit was to have meet Mr. Hastings at Benares, to settle other matters; but on his death, Mr. Chapman was sent to Nagpore, for the purpose of endeavoring, through Moodhojee, 1781, A. D.

hojee, to conclude a peace with the Marhattas. In the mean time, however, Sindia had been employed by General Goddard for the same end,

1782, A. D. and a treaty was concluded in May, 1782; the war with Hyder, and after his death, with Tippoo, continuing until March, 1784.

Moodhojee was engaged, during a part of this period, in suppressing a formidable insurrection of the Pathan Jugeerdars in Berar, who had always borne the Marhatta yoke with great impatience, and were incited by the Nizam's authorities, to frequent conflicts with those of the Bhooslah. On this occasion, they were defeated with great slaughter, near

1784, A. D. Akote, and Moodhojee succeeded in getting the Nizam's chief officer in Berar, re-placed by Sullabut Khan, who has since been distinguished for his attachment to the English.

1785, A. D. Moodhojee now resolved on paying a visit to Poona, as necessary to establish confidence between him and the Peshwa; and a treaty, favorable to Moodhojee, was concluded by him in September 1785. He shortly afterwards obtained the long withheld sunnuds for Mundilla and the valley of the Nerbudda, on giving a written engagement to pay twenty-seven lacs of rupees.

1786, A. D. Moodhojee sent his son Chimnajee to attend the Peshwa's army in the war with Tippoo, which had then broken out, and returned himself to Nagpore.

1787, and 1788, A. D. His brother, Beembajee, died in November, 1787, and Moodhojee, in 1788, leaving his dominions in a perfect state of tranquillity, and bequeathing a considerable treasure, both in cash and jewels, to his son Rughojee.

Rughojee

Rughojee was twenty-eight years of age when he assumed the government. He had been brought up to business, and having remained the life time of Moodhojee in perfect submission and obedience to his father, and on the best terms with his ministers, his succession produced none of those changes in the administration which usually attend the commencement of a new reign. The only disturbances which existed in the country, were caused by the widow of Beembajee in Chutteesgurh; but these were soon remedied, and in December, Rughojee repaired to Poona, where he concluded a new treaty, by which he obtained a confirmation of his titles and dignity, and of all former grants, and bound himself to furnish a force of ten thousand men to the Poona state, when called upon. He also procured for his younger brother, Yenkojee, his father's title of Sena Dhoorundher, and Chanda and Chutteesghur were allotted to him as an appanage. Chimnujee retained what had formerly been conferred upon him in Mundilla and Berar, but he did not live long after his brother's return to Nagpore. He died suddenly in August, 1789, and his death was generally attributted to witchcraft or poison, employed at the instigation of Rughojee, to rid himself of a brother whom he both hated and feared.

Rughojee 2d May 1788, A. D.

1788, A. D.

1789, A. D.

Rughojee's contingent accompanied the Peshwa's troops in the war with Tippoo, which commenced in 1789; but his attention was chiefly absorbed in domestic arrangements, and in watching the politics of Poona, under the ascendancy of Madhajee Sindia, of which he was very jealous. He entered heartily into the war with the Nizam, which led to the battle of Khudlah, in March, 1795, and participated in the advantages of the disgraceful terms imposed upon the Nizam, in consequence of that event. He then accompanied the Peshwa to Poona, where he renewed his engagements, and obtained fresh orders for the delivery of the districts on the south bank of the Nerbuddah, which were withheld from him through the influence of Sindia; as well as a promise of Hoosengabad, and other

1790, A. D.

11th March, 1795, A. D.

places in Bhopal. He had scarcely reached Jalna, on his return towards
27th October, 1795, A. D. Nagpore, when he received intelligence of the death of the Peshwa, Madhoo Rao. On this event Rughojee sent his ministers to Poona, and remained himself in Berar.

Resolving to take advantage of the confusion caused by the death of Madhoo Rao, and authorized by the late treaty, and by the advice of Nana Phurnaveese, he dispatched a force to seize upon Hoosengabad, and the Nurbudda valley. The former place was taken by storm, in the
1796, A. D. middle of March, 1796. Little progress had been made in the conquest of the other districts, when Rughojee was summoned to Poona, to be present at the inauguration of Bajee Rao, in the dignity of Peshwa, which took place in December.

In all proceedings previous to this event, Rughojee's ministers, at Poona, co-operated with Nana, and Azim Ool Omra, who, though a prisioner, exercised a wonderful influence over all parties, and accomplished his own deliverance, as well as the release of his master from the most burthensome of the terms, recently extorted from him by the Mahrattas. Rughojee, also, who had not lost a moment in reparing to Poona, when he learnt that Nana had returned thither from Mhar, obtained some
March 1797, A. D. farther advantages in a new treaty concluded in March, 1797. The chief articles were the cession to himself of the whole of Gurra Mundilla, north of the Nurbudda, on the terms annexed to the original grant to Chimnajee; viz. the payment of twenty-six lacs of rupees, and a quota of three thousand troops; and that of the fort of Chowragurh, which was necessary to the safe occupation of the valley of the Nurbudda.

1798, A. D. During the following year, Rughojee obtained possession of nearly the whole of Gurra Mundilla, and the valley of the Nurbudda. Chowragurh

gurh was not taken until February, 1799, and the forts of Tezgurh and Mundilla were given up by the Chief of Sagur, in recompence of the aid afforded to him by the Nagpore troops against an invasion by Meer Khan, in November of the same year. Dhamonee, another strong fort, detached from the Mundilla district, had been previously acquired by cession from a Lodhee Rajpoot, who had seized it from the Boondelahs; so that nothing now remained, but to settle the newly acquired districts.

Rughojee took no part in the transactions at Poona, which followed his last visit to that capital, under the ascendancy of Dowlut Rao Sindia. The imprisonment of Nana Phurnaveese, was a severe blow to his interests and feelings. It was during this period that Jeswunt Rao Holkar fled to Nagpore, after the murder of his brother at Poona. The Rajah, in order to conciliate Sindia, seized him and kept him in prison for some months, until the beginning of March, 1799, when he effected his escape to Malwa and commenced his eminent career. 1799, A. D. 1799, A. D.

With the British Government, Rughojee's relations were those of simple amity. Since Mr. Forster, who was deputed to Nagpore during the last war with Tippoo, and who died there in January, 1791, no English Envoy had been sent to Nagpore. Few subjects of collision between the Governments existed, but the degraded state of the Peshwa's power under the ascendancy of Sindia, the profligate character of his minister Sirjee Rao, and the evident hostility of that person towards the English, and the Nizam, coupled with the expectation of a war with Tippoo, which would have presented an opportunity to give it effect, rendered it expedient to endeavour to draw Rughojee into the triple alliance existing between the English, the Nizam, and the Peshwa, as a means at once of strengthening the confederacy against Tippoo, and of forming a counterpoise to the danger, was influence of Sindia. For this purpose,

Mr.

Mr. Colebrooke was appointed Resident at Nagpore, on the 23d July, 1798; but he did not arrive at that capital until the 18th March, 1799.

The Rajah willingly assented to the proposed march of a Bengal force through his territories, to join the army of Fort St. George, which was the first point proposed to him, and he professed a readiness to enter into a separate treaty with the British Government, in preference to a joint one, when all necessity for it, in its main object, was ended by the fall of Seringapatam, and the death of Tippoo in May, 1799.

1800, A. D. The object of opposing Sindia remained to be provided for, and Mr. Colebrooke was still instructed to endeavour to obtain the accession of the Rajah to a treaty of defensive alliance expressly against that Chief. For a time there seemed some prospect of inducing Rughojee, through his fears of Sindia, to join the confederacy, and even to accept a subsidiary force; but the jealousy entertained by the other Marhatta powers, of the great increase derived to the British ascendancy from the fall of Tippoo, and the partition of his dominions, was soon paramount in Rughojee's mind over his former apprehensions, and there being no prospect of a change in his feelings, and even suspicions of his meditating to join Sindia in his projected confederacy against the British Government, Mr.
1801, A. D. Colebrooke quitted Nagpore in May, 1801.

In the end of the same year, Rughojee despatched his ministers, Sreedhar Pundit and Krishna Rao Chitnaweese, to Poona, agreeably to repeated applications from Bajee Rao. In the mean time, he stood aloof from the contest, which was carrying on between Holkar and Sindia, and which had obliged the latter to repair to Malwa. He exhorted them, however, to compose their quarrel with a view to future operations against the English. Rughojee was unsuccessful in his endeavors to this effect, and

and his ministers at Poona were equally so in theirs, to prevent matters from proceeding to extremities between Holkar and Bajee Rao. The battle of Poona in October, 1802, defeated all his immediate plans by inducing the Peshwa to conclude the treaty of Bassein. 1802, A. D.

Before the return of Rughojee's ministers in March, 1803, Sindia had sent a vakeel to Nagpore, to urge the Rajah to join him in bringing Holkar to reason, and remedying the step taken by Bajee Rao of throwing himself into the hands of the English; and shortly afterwards, Sindia's minister, Jadho Rao Bhasker, arrived on a similiar mission. The result of these negotiations was, that a meeting was appointed to take place between the Rajah and Sindia, and that Holkar was also to be invited to an interview, to concert measures for the preservation of the Marhatta empire. 1803, A. D.

Sindia who had collected a large force at Oujein, to chastise Holkar, crossed the Nurbudda on the 4th of February, 1803, and on the 23d reached Boorhanpore, where he was joined by the British resident, Colonel Collins. Rughojee did not leave Nagpore till the middle of May, and the concerted meeting between him and Sindia took place on the 4th of June, near Mulkapore, in Berar.

Rughojee had, in the mean time, again exerted himself unsuccessfully to settle the differences between Holkar and Sindia, but Holkar seems to have been either distrustful of the issue of the confederacy, or desirous to benefit himself by withholding his aid, until he could obtain more advantageous terms than those he had rejected: at the same time he advised the confederates to avoid general actions, and to invade the British dominions, instead of defending their own. He offered himself to conduct the war in Hindoostan, if they would entrust it entirely to him, but no stipulations could be agreed upon.

 The

23d September, 1803, A. D. The battle of Assaye was fatal to Sindia's military career in the Deckun. Rughojee's troops had little share in this action. In the battle of Argaum, he in his turn suffered the loss of the best part of his regular infantry and artillery. Cuttack had previously been occupied, and his dominions were threatened on the side of Chutteesgurh. The fall 7th December. of Gawilgurh completed his ruin, and on the 17th December, he no longer hesitated to sign the treaty of Deogaum, which deprived him of Berar and Cuttack, as well as of some dependencies on the frontier of the latter province, and obliged him to submit all his differences with the Nizam and Peshwa to the British Government, and to admit a British Resident to be stationary at his Court for the future.

Rughojee's territories, before the war, yielded a revenue of about one crore of rupees. By the treaty they were reduced to sixty lacs. The Nizam gained about twenty-six lacs in Berar, and the Company the rest. Rughojee's military force, at the commencement of the war, consisted of eighteen thousand horse, and twenty-five thousand infantry, of which eleven thousand were regular battalions, and four thousand Arabs, both of which suffered severely at Argam and Gawilgurh. His field artillery consisted of about ninety pieces of ordnance, of which he lost thirty-eight at Argaum. The regular infantry were never replaced, and he reduced his cavalry very considerably at the peace.

Rughojee reached Nagpore, on his return from this disastrous con- 1804, A. D. test, on the 25th of January, 1804, attended by the British representative, the Honorable Mr. Elphinstone. His immediate attention on reaching his capital, was directed to recover Hoosengabad and Sconee, which had been re-taken by the Nabob of Bhopal during the war, in settling his new boundaries, and in securing his subjects from the effects of the famine, which was felt over the rest of the Deckun, but, which his dominions only partially

partially experienced. To retrieve his finances, he exacted considerable sums of money from his ministers and richest subjects, and he was not more scrupulous in settling the arrears of his troops.

Some discussions arose with the British Resident, connected with the recent treaty, which were not settled before the middle of the year, and the successes of Holkur during the rains, and Sindia's dubious conduct, under the counsels of his father-in-law, Sirjee Rao, for a time made upon Rughojee, smarting under his recent losses, an impression unfavorable to the continuance of peace. Some actual hostilities even were committed by his Highness's troops in Berar; but for these he made ample apologies and atonement before the end of the year; and though pressed both by Sindia and Holkur to join them against the British Government, and even harassed by the Pindarrees of the former Chief, in resentment for his backwardness in the common cause, Rughojee persisted in maintaining his relations with the British Government, essentially unimpaired, during the transactions of the following year, which ended in the conclusion of a treaty of peace with Holkur on the banks of the Hyphasis, on the 24th of December. 1805, A. D.

Some attempts had been made by the British Resident, to induce the Rajah to accede to a subsidiary treaty, but his jealousy on this point was not to be overcome, though he, at one time, offered to pay for the temporary aid of some British troops. Lord Cornwallis had projected to restore to the Rajah, Sumbhulpore, and other late dependencies of Chutteesgurh, on the Cuttack frontier, and Sir George Barlow intended, if the Nizam's consent could be obtained, to add some districts on the east bank of the Wurda, of which the Rajah and the Nizam had the joint collections. The first mentioned cessions were made during the year 1806, though it was not until the year 1808, that they took full effect, owing to the resistance 1806, A. D.

of

of some of the Zemindars to the change of masters; but the Rajah declined, from motives of pride, accepting the districts on the Wurda, which the Nizam would only grant as a Jaghire. Indeed, the Rajah was by no means thankful for the restoration of Sumbulpore, &c., having formed exaggerated expectations, from misconceiving some general expressions in a letter from Lord Cornwallis, of the intentions of the British Government towards him, and which he long continued to maintain, had extended to giving him back Berar and Cuttack; in one word, the whole of the conquests made from him in the late war.

The recovery of Hoosengabad and Seonee, and the conquest of Chy-
1807, A. D. nepore Baree, belonging to Bhopaul, were effected by Rughojee in 1807, in prosecution of a confederacy, formed with Sindia, for the entire conquest and partition of that principality, but these acquisitions were but a poor compensation for the expenses attending them, and for the constant loss both of revenue and credit, which the Nagpore state continued to sustain from the Pindarries, until a more imminent danger threatened it
1809, A. D. from the aggression of Meer Khan in 1809.

This danger arose, partly in a demand made by Holkar for a restoration of jewels and property, said to have been plundered from him, when he was confined at Nagpore, as formerly mentioned, but chiefly in the restless and ambitious character of Meer Khan, and the wants of the predatory bands, collected under his standard. Meer Khan advanced to the vicinity of Bhopal, in the middle of 1809, where he was joined by the Nabob, and most of the Pindarries. He ravaged Gurrah Mundilla, and as soon as the Nerbudda became fordable, after the rains, he crossed that
1810, A. D. river, and had reduced the Rajah's commander at Sreenuggur, to promise a considerable sum of money in the name of the Rajah, as the price of his retreat, when he received a letter from the Governor General, warning him

him to desist from his unwarrantable designs against the state of Nagpore. The Rajah, on his part, refused to confirm the agreement entered into by his commander, and Meer Khan suffered a defeat on quitting Jubbulpore, from the Rajah's troops that hung upon his rear. He made some subsequent attacks in conjunction with the Nabob of Bhopaul, on the Rajah's army on the Nerbudda, to revenge what he called a double treachery; but his attacks were repelled, and he finally desisted from them on the approach of the British army, under Colonel Close.

The Rajah had made no application for aid from the British Government, but the Governor General, Lord Minto, considering the general peace and tranquillity of India, and more directly, the security of our allies in the Deccan, to be menaced by Meer Khan's proceedings, and being desirous to shew some indulgence to Rughojee, on account of his losses in the late war, which exceeded those of Sindia, in proportion to their respective resources, resolved to afford that aid, both without its being asked, and without any demand of compensation. Even this liberal conduct failed to have its proper effect on Rughojee's jealous disposition, and when, on the return of the British troops from Seronje to Hoosengabad, the Rajah was offered a force, on certain conditions, of a subsidiary nature, to secure him in future from similar dangers to that which he had just escaped, he declined it in rather offensive terms. He shortly afterwards repented of his refusal, and wished to detain the British troops on the Nerbudda; but Lord Minto thought it would be undignified to listen to his forced and jealous proposals, and subsequently, when they were again renewed by Rughojee, on being hard pressed by the Pindarries, who, in November 1811, had even burnt one of the suburbs of his capital, the expeditions to the French islands and Java, which were in progress, were a bar to their acceptance on our part. After these unsuccessful overtures, on Rughojee's part, the irruptions of the Pindarries into the Com- 1811, A. D.

 pany's

pany's territories, seem to have induced in him a belief, that the British Government must, for its own sake, be forced to suppress the Pindarries, and a consequent determination, either not to accede to a subsidiary treaty at all, or at least not without additional advantages, which he thought he might obtain by waiting for the crisis. In this mind, Rughojee evaded all attempts to bring forward the negotiation on our side in
1814, A. D. 1814, and his rejection of it was now deemed final by the Marquess of Hastings.

After being relieved by our aid, from the danger which had threatened him from Meer Khan, Rughojee's views were turned towards making acquisitions of territory in Bhopaul and Gurra Kotta, a petty chiefship in the vicinity of Sagur, which had assisted Meer Khan in his recent invasion. In these objects, he was very anxious to obtain our countenance; and our unwillingness to encourage unreasonable plans of conquest, which were in direct opposition to the spirit of the alliance we proposed to him, was, in no small degree, an obstacle to his acceding to that alliance. The Rajah's troops had been besieging Gurra Kotta for several months, when Baptiste, one of Sindia's commanders, obtained possession of the place for his master in April 1811, and attacked the Nagpore forces, which were compelled to retire with considerable loss. This was the termination of Rughojee's views of aggrandizement in that quarter.

On the side of Bhopaul, he had recovered possession of Chynepoor
1810, A. D. Baree and Chowkeergurh, through our means, in 1810, and on the failure of our endeavours to mediate a peace between him and the Nabob, he negotiated with Sindia for co-operation in the entire conquest and partition of that principality. The unsuccessful seige of Bhopal, by the combined forces of Rughojee and Sindia, which lasted from November, 1813, to July, 1814, and which is memorable for the display it afforded of the bravery

bravery and devotion of Wuzeer Mahommed Khan, and a gallant band of Pathans, in its defence, was the chief result of the confederacy. Further attempts against Bhopaul were prevented by the interference of the British Government, which on the final rejection of our offers of alliance at Nagpore, had determined to take that principality under its protection, with a view of forming there a station for the British force, to keep the Pindaries in check. This interference, however unpalatable to the Rajah, was productive of no material change in his general conduct. He submitted, though with reluctance, to the prohibition from prosecuting hostilities against Bhopaul, and when he was apprized in 1815, that our views in that quarter had failed, he still abstained from hostilities, because we would not declare that we abandoned that principality to his disposal.

Rughojee Bhooslah died on the 22d of March, 1816, at the age of fifty-eight years. He was coarse in his person, and rustic in his manners. His affability was without dignity, and though to a certain degree popular, and successful for the attainment of his immediate ends, it too frequently degenerated into meanness when money was his object. 1816, A. D.

He was particularly fond of children, a kind and too indulgent father and uncle to his son and nephew as children, though too easily estranged from them, when they grew up, from the natural jealousy of his temper. He was a dutiful son, but a bad brother.

He was always indefatigable in business, but too minute and prying in his inspection into the details of his Government. He was passionate, but timid; obstinate and vindictive. His ruling passions were avarice and rapacity, and they seemed to increase with his years, whilst they had an excuse, to silence the scruples which might otherwise have opposed themselves to the odious and tyrannical means by which alone they could be

be gratified in the reduction of his means, and their inadequacy to his expenditure, which his pride would not allow him avowedly to lessen. He was badly served, both in his civil affairs and in the field. In the former his prying temper rendered him a prey to the professional Mootsuddees, whom he desired to outwit; and his shameful treatment of his troops on several occasions, and his general system of trickery in the pay-master's department, as well as his proverbial cowardice, were inconsistent with any sentiment of respect or devotion towards his person, in any branch of his army. His Government was, in fact, kept together, chiefly from the absence of any external pressure to dissolve it, and in some degree, by his personal weight and experience, and the remembrance of what had been.

He was certainly hostile to the British Government, and no benefits could efface from his recollection the losses he had sustained; but he bitterly repented having been betrayed into an abandonment of the temporizing policy of his family, by joining the Marhatta confederacy of 1803. He had sense enough to see that nothing open could be attempted with any probability of success to shake our power, but he was not deterred from encouraging any surreptitious efforts to undermine it, and credulous to an absurd degree, with regard to any reports to our disadvantage. He was too old to be enterprizing, saw the folly of coalitions with such materials as India presented, and whilst he seemed resolved never to part with his fancied independence, he strove carefully to avoid giving us tangible offence, though he was equally disinclined to do any thing to please us, when he had no immediate object in view.

Pursojee Bhooslah. 1816, A. D.

This Prince was Rughojee's only son, and at his father's death, about thirty-eight years of age. Early sensual indulgences, and injudicious remedies for diseases contracted therefrom, had gradually undermined a constitution

constitution originally strong, and he was now, in intellect, weak, if not quite dementate; in body totally helpless, being blind and lame, from a paralysis of his lower extremities.

Under such circumstances, disputes arose in the family as to the proper person to act as regent for a prince who was utterly incapable of conducting his own affairs. The immediate possession of his person, and of the treasures and jewels of the state, enabled one of the late Rajah's widows, (not Pursojee's mother, who had been long dead) with the aid of Goojabba Dada Goojur, a nephew of Rughojee, by the female side, and Dhermajee Bhooslah, a Chela of the family, to hold, for a short time, the reins of Government to the exclusion of Moodhojee Bhooslah, commonly called Appa Sahib.

This prince was the only son of Rughojee's younger brother, Venkujee Bhooslah, who died at Benares in 1811, and, consequently, as next heir, he was entitled to the regency, to which also the general voice of the ministers and military commanders acknowledged his right. By their aid and countenance, Appa Sahib succeeded in wresting the authority, and person of the Rajah, out of the hands of his opponents, though not until near the middle of April, when the ceremony of seating Pursojee on the musnud, was performed. 1816, A. D.

During this struggle, Appa Sahib had made continual overtures to the Resident, Mr. Jenkins, expressive of his anxiety to obtain the protection of the British Government; but no interference in his favor had hitherto taken place. Although, however, he had apparently established his authority without danger of its subversion, Appa Sahib by no means felt secure. He had witnessed the difficulties and embarrassments of the latter years of Rughojee, who had left the Government, in every depart-

ment, in a state of confusion, through which it required all his experience and knowledge, as well as the weight of his long administration, to steer. The army, too numerous for the finances, was unpaid, and the revenues were, in a great measure, anticipated. Still there was treasure; but it was
1816. A. D. not to be thought of as an available resource, excepting in a case of extremity. Appa Sahib, too, was constitutionally timid; and a natural view of the exigencies of his situation, particularly the necessity of reductions in the military branch, and the dread of the unpopularity which they would draw upon him, as well as a good disposition towards the British Government, caused chiefly by the hospitable attentions he and his father had received in the Company's provinces, led him still to court the British alliance. As soon, therefore, as instructions to that effect were received by the Resident, the negotiation was entered upon, and a treaty
28th May. of defensive alliance was concluded on the 28th of May, with Pursojee Bhooslah, through Appa Sahib as regent.

It had originally been proposed by the British Government, to station the force which the Rajah might stipulate to subsidize, on the Nerbudda; but at Appa Sahib's particular request, as he was not less anxious about his personal safety, than about the general objects of the treaty, an additional brigade of infantry was granted to him, to be posted at the capital. The only payment on account of the subsidiary force, consisting of six battalions of infantry, and a regiment of cavalry, with artillery and pioneers, demanded from the Nagpore state, was the yearly sum of seven lacs and a half of rupees; in case of a failure in which, it was to cede an equivalent portion of territory, on demand. It was, farther, to maintain a contingent of three thousand horse, and two thousand infantry, for the purposes of the alliance, with a proviso, that this force
1816, A.D. should be subject to the muster inspection and review of the Resident, and his recommendations respecting its equipments, discipline, pay, &c.

be

be attended to. On the 13th of June, the stationary brigade arrived at Nagpore, and the main body of the force encamped in the vicinity previous to taking up a more advanced position for the rains. 18th June.

Renewed intrigues against Appa Sahib's authority, followed the knowledge of his negotiations with the British Government. Though these were discouraged by the Resident, to whom the opposite party now applied for countenance, Appa Sahib did not consider himself altogether safe in the palace, and moved out to a garden-house near the city, close to the new British cantonment, as ensuring his personal safety, and the remainder of the British force was detained in its original position, during the rains, to give still greater countenance to his authority. Here Appa Sahib remained until the end of August, when he had settled every thing to his satisfaction in the court and army, and thought he might, without danger to his person, return to the city.

As soon as practicable after the rains, the main body of the British subsidiary force took up positions on the Nerbudda, calculated to cover the Rajah's territories from the incursions of the Pindarries, and were joined by the contingent. Little aid, however, was derived from the latter, though, had the horse been at all efficient, much might have been effected to prevent the ravages which, in spite of the most active exertions of the British troops, were committed by the Pindarries, during the favorable season for their operations.

In January 1817, Appa Sahib went to Chanda, on the plea of settling some urgent affairs. During his absence, Rajah Pursojee Bhooslah died, suddenly, on the morning of the 1st of February. Though his death was unexpected, yet there seemed no ground, at the time, for attributing it to any extraordinary cause, though whispers were heard, accusing Appa Sahib 1817, A.D. 1st February.

Sahib of having hastened his end. Such whispers had even been heard on the death of Rughojee, but without any apparent foundation, beyond the vulgar love of the marvellous. They were afterwards found, in the former case, to be too true. However, Appa Sahib now become the undoubted heir to the Government, immediately took upon himself the office and state of Rajah, though he was not publicly installed on the musnud until the 21st of April.

Moodhojee Bhoosslah 2d. (Appah Sahib.) 1817, A. D. 21st April.

Soon after his accession, Appa Sahib began to alter his conduct towards the British Government, dismissing from his councils the ministers who had negotiated the late treaty, and carrying on communications contrary to that treaty, with Bajee Rao, and the other Marhatta chiefs. His entire failure in the performance of his engagements, with regard to the contingent, imposing upon the British Government the charge of maintaining a much larger force for the protection of his territories, than he was entitled to, was another ground of just complaint against him. His conduct thus early manifested a spirit of unsteadiness, and even hostility, which it is probable would even then have broken out into action, had not the pacific termination of the discussions at Poona, in June 1817, obliged him to feign a return to his original sentiments of cordiality and friendship towards his ally.

1817, A. D. June.

Some measures were agreed to, in July and August, by Appa Sahib, which promised some benefit to the common cause from his contingent, in the operations against the Pindarrees, now resolved upon; notwithstanding, however, his professions, he continued his evasive conduct on this point, and his secret negotiations with Bajee Rao, Sindia, and even the Pindarrees, were unceasing; whilst, on the other hand, he omitted no professions calculated to lull the British Resident into a false security, as to his real views. These were placed beyond a doubt, soon after the development

lopement of Bajee Rao's similar treachery, and the immediate result was the battle of Seetabuldee, on the 26th and 27th of November, an action so glorious to the handful of British troops engaged, and so decisive in its effects on the subsequent conduct of Appa Sahib. November 26th and 27th.

A cessation of hostilities having been granted to the Rajah, on his petition, amicable communications continued until the arrival of General Doveton, on the 12th of December. Appa Sahib's conduct, however, was still doubtful, and no instructions having yet reached Nagpore, it was then necessary to bring matters to some decision. Terms were, accordingly, offered, which, if accepted, were considered as placing affairs at Nagpore on a footing as favorable as the most successful battle could have been expected to produce. Amongst these terms, was the personal surrender of Appa Sahib, which, from his cowardly character, the Resident judged might be demanded with great hopes of success; and this being accomplished, would ensure the early termination of the war, thereby leaving General Doveton's army disposable either against the Peshwa, or to support the armies in advance. 1817, A. D.

The battle of Nagpore on the 16th December, after Appa Sahib had surrendered himself to the mercy and clemency of the British Government, was brought on by the military feeling of some of the chiefs, who disdained to follow the example of their recreant Prince; and the city of Nagpore, which, as well as all his artillery, Appa Sahib had agreed to surrender, was defended with obstinacy, by the Arabs in his service. Its surrender on the 30th December, was considered as the termination of the war with the state of Nagpore, and a provisional engagement to retain Appa Sahib on the musnud, was concluded on the following conditions: "That he should cede all his territories to the northward of the Nerbudda, as well as certain possessions on the southern bank, and all his rights in December 16th. December 30th.

Berar, Gawilgurh, Sirgoojah, and Jushpore, in lieu of the subsidy and contingent; that the civil and military affairs of his Government should be settled and conducted by ministers, in the confidence of the British Government, according to the advice of the Resident; that the Rajah, with his family, should reside in the palace at Nagpore, under the protection of the British troops; that the arrears of subsidy should be paid
1818, A. D. up, until the final transfer of the above-mentioned territories had taken place; that any forts in the territory which we might wish to occupy, should immediately be given up; that the person whom he described as principally resisting his orders should, if possible, be seized and delivered up to the British Government; and that the two hills of Seetubuldee, with the bazars, and an adequate portion of land adjoining, should be ceded to the British Government, which should be at liberty to erect on them such military works as might be deemed necessary." Under these conditions, Appa Sahib was permitted to return to his palace on the 9th
January 9th. of January, both that and the city being still garrisoned by British troops. The ladies of the palace, with the jewels and other valuable effects of the state, which had been placed by Apha Sahib, for security, in Bhundara, about thirty-seven miles east from Nagpore, were escorted in, on the 19th January, by a detachment of British troops.

The war was thus finished in little more than a month after its commencement; and General Doveton left Nagpore on the 22d January, with the main body of his army. The fort of Gawilgurh and Nurnallah, were surrendered to him on Appa Sahib's order.

The troops under General Hardyman and Colonel McMorine, had been successful on the Nerbudda, in the actions at Jubbelpore and Sreenuggur, on the 19th December, and 15th January, and the whole of the ceded territory in that quarter was brought under subjection before the

end

end of the latter month, with the exception of the forts of Dhamonee, Chouragurh, and Mundilla. 1818, A. D

Appa Sahib was not long in again commencing his intrigues against the British power. The Gonds, and other mountain Chiefs, were encouraged to act against the British authorities, and molest their convoys. The Killadar of Chouragurh and Mundilla, were secretly ordered to disobey the public instructions sent them, for the surrender of those forts. The Killadar of Chanda was directed to recruit, and agents were sent to Bajee Rao, to invite him to assist Appa Sahib. Having ascertained these points, and also receiving intelligence of Bajee Rao's proposed movement towards the Nagpore territories, whilst Appa Sahib had almost matured a plan for escaping from the capital to Chanda, the Resident arrested him on the 15th of March, and again brought him to the residency. The Rajah and his minister, Nagoo Pundit, now confessed the whole of their plans. The guilt also of Appa Sahib, in the murder of his relation and sovereign, Pursojee, had, at this period, come to light. March 15th.

The van of Bajee Rao's army reached the Wurda, near Chanda, on the 2d April, but was there checked by Colonel Scott, who had been despatched with the greater part of the force then at Nagpore, to endeavor to prevent Bajee Rao from getting into Chanda, and to keep him in check until the arrival of Colonel Adams, who had been called down by the Resident, on the reports of Bajee Rao's movements to the eastward. On the 17th April, Bajee Rao himself was attacked and routed near the Wurda, by the force under Colonel Adams, joined by that under Colonel Scott, and it was afterwards deemed expedient to beseige the fort of Chanda, which was taken by storm on the 2d May. April 17th. 1818. A. D. 2d May.

The necessity for farther military operations seemed now at an end; but

but Appa Sahib, who had been sent from Nagpore, under an escort, towards Allahabad, in the beginning of May, unfortunately contrived to make his escape on the march, and effected his retreat to the Mahadeo hills, where he was received and protected by the Gonds.

May.

The fort of Dhamonee, belonging to the Bhooslah, to the northward of the Nerbudda, the Killudar of which, as well as those of Mundilla and Chouragurh, had orders from Appa Sahib to resist their transfer to the British Government, was taken by General Marshall in March, and the two latter in April and May.

During the rains, Appa Sahib had collected a considerable body of Arabs, Pindarrees, and Gonds about him; and some of the ceded country above the Ghauts, to the westward, fell into their temporary possession. His partizans were, in the mean time, very active in raising men, which, from the numerous bodies recently thrown out of employ, was not difficult, and a great part of the country became seriously disturbed. The spirited and active operations of different detachments, had dispersed the insurgents in almost every direction, with the exception of the bodies in Appa Sahib's vicinity, by the end of the year; and in February, Appa Sahib's flight to Asseergurh, and subsequently to Hindoostan, left us nothing to do, but to bring the refractory Gonds to reason, an object which was soon satisfactorily accomplished, in spite of the difficulties presented to our troops by the mountainous nature of the country, and to our civil arrangements, by the wild character of the people.

1819. A. D.

Rughojee Bhooslah, 3d. 1818, A. D.

On the deposition of Appa Sahib, which was finally determined upon, in consequence of his continued infidelity, the grandson of the late Rughojee, by a daughter married to Nana Goojur, was selected to be placed on the gudee, or musnud. According to the Marhatta custom, it

was

was necessary that he should be previously adopted by the widow of the last Rajah, to entitle him to the name of Bhooslah, and this adoption, accordingly, took place. He was formally seated on the gudee on the 26th of June, 1818, with the usual ceremonies, and assumed the name of Rughojee, in honor of his grandfather. As he was a minor, between nine and ten years of age, it became necessary to establish a Regency, at the head of which was his grandmother, Bara Baee. To her was entrusted the care of the Rajah's person, and the command over the household and court, and at her own request, Goojabba Dada, the maternal nephew of the late Rughojee, was appointed to assist her in this office. The best arrangements for the civil administration were more difficult to choose.

1818. A. D. 26th June.

It may suffice to mention here, that the general superintendence of affairs was, from that period, assumed by the Resident, acting in the name of the Rajah, with the assistance of British officers at the head of every department; and, that this plan of Government having received the sanction of the Supreme Government, still continues.

SECTION FIFTH.

GOVERNMENT AND COURT OF NAGPORE.

THE Government existing in the different parts of the dominions of the Bhooslah family, previously to the Marhatta Conquest, were various. Berar was under the Nizam; Gondwanah, including Deogurh, Chanda, and Mundilla, were subject to Gond chiefs; Chutteesgurh and its dependencies, were also under petty Rajahs of different races; and Cuttack was a province of Bengal.

Gond Princes—origin and progress of their power.

Mundilla had been long occupied by the Sagur Marhattas, before its cession to Rughojee. Chutteesgurh and Cuttack had little influence on the general system of the paramount state, whatever differences might exist in their local usages, and whatever effect those differences might be allowed to have on their local administration, under the Marhattas. Deogurh and Chanda formed the nucleus, as it were, of the Bhoosla dominion. The rights originally exercised by the Marhattas, in those provinces, were acquired by treaty, and though the Chief of Chanda was soon reduced to the situation of a mere pensioner, both in name and in reality,

reality, the Deogurh Prince preserved his nominal superiority to the Marhatta masters of his country, and his officers were associated in most of the acts of the Government relating to the revenue. A few words on the subject of the former Government of Deogurh and Chanda will, therefore, be a proper introduction to an account of the Marhatta system.

In both provinces, the original principles of the Gond Government were the same. The Rajas were, at first, little more than the feudal superiors of a number of petty chiefs; their relations, or dependants, who contributed nothing but their military service. The Rajahs, like their feudatories, possessed a territorial domain, in which alone they exercised direct authority. As this was enlarged by conquest from their neighbors, or usurpation from their feudatories, they naturally became a little more civilized than the rest of their tribe. Their growing power, and pretensions to rank and title, as independent Princes, having attracted the notice of the neighboring Mahomedan rulers, they were, in their turn, rendered tributaries and feudatories. Their consequent intercourse with a more civilized people, led them to imitate their manners, to court their notice, and to aim at acquiring the distinctions which the imperial power of Delhi was equally disposed to lavish, as the source of influence over tribes hitherto unconquered, and of pride in the enumeration of barbarous races, amongst the nominal creatures of their will.

The Rajahs of Chanda and Deogurh are said, at different times, to have made their appearance at the court of Delhi. The latter became a Moosulman, to ensure the imperial protection; and the family are still of that persuasion. Though the political conduct of the converted Prince, Bukht Boolund, which title, meaning "of high fortune," was conferred upon him by his Mahommedan godfathers, frequently obtained for him from the imperial officers, the inverted appellation, or nickname, of Nigoon Bukht,

Bukht, or "of mean fortune;" yet his rule was the era of great improvement in the state of the country he governed. He employed indiscriminately, Moosulmans and Hindoos of ability, to introduce order and regularity into his immediate domain. Industrious settlers, from all quarters, were attracted to Gondwanah; many towns and villages were founded; and agriculture, manufactures, and even commerce made considerable advances. His court was the resort of many military adventures, the descendants of some of whom still remain, and the superior discipline and courage of his foreign troops, rendered his power more respectable both at home and abroad. Through their means, he made considerable conquests from Chanda and Mundilla, both of which seem, originally, to have been far superior to Deogurh in opulence and power, and he derived considerabe advantage from the convulsions, caused by Aurenegzebe's contests with the rising power of the Marhattas. Though time had not matured the fruits of these improvements, before domestic dissentions amongst the descendants of Bukht Boolund, rendered them a prey to foreign conquest; yet it may, with truth be said, that much of the success of the Marhatta administration, which no doubt accelerated the general prosperity, was owing to the ground-work already established by him.)

Marratta Princes: Foundation of their power.

The Bhooslah family then, as we have seen, founds its right to the Government of Deogurh, on treaty with its original possessors, and it still allows the title of Rajah to the Gond princes, with a commutation for the original share of the revenues of the country, as it stood at the period of the conquest, and with the privilege of receiving it through their own officers; whilst the observances due to the ancient proprietor of the state, are carefully and even ostentatiously adhered to. The Gond Rajah gives the *Teeka*, or mark of royalty, to the Bhooslah princes, on their accession to the Gadee, and he is entitled to put his seal to certain revenue papers.

These

These circumstances, though indicating a nominal partition of the sovereign dignity, do not, however, detract to any practical purpose, from the political independence of the Bhooslah Rajahs of Nagpore. In all foreign transactions, they were constituted by the Gond prince, the only channel of intercourse with other states, and in their domestic administration, it has probably been less from a sense of obligation, than of policy and convenience, that they have allowed any marks of the original terms of their entry into Deogurh to be preserved: of convenience, for internal Government, as all unnecessary change is troublesome, and the actual system promised every benefit both of revenue and general prosperity; of policy for foreign purposes, perhaps, as allaying jealousy, or as indicating that their dominion was obtained from the ruler of the country, and not from the Peshwa, or the Rajah of Sattara, though permitted by the latter, and accomplished by Rughojee, whilst holding the high office of Sena Sahib Soobah and Collector of the Choute of Berar. The former title with that of Rajah, has always been held by the Bhooslahs, and they have maintained their right to be considered as superior in rank to the other feudatories of the Marhatta empire, as related, however distantly to the Rajah of Satara, and deriving their original office directly from him, whilst the rest were military chiefs, who owed their elevation to the favor of the Peshwa. Titles and pretensions.

In support of these pretensions, they have had frequent wars with the Peshwas, but the different treaties which have been noticed in the historical memoir, show how little they have been able to maintain them, and how much disposed they have always been to abandon them for political purposes of the moment. Still their submission to the authority of the Peshwas rests on extorted compliance, and the basis of treaties, as between independent rulers.

With the shades of difference arising from these circumstances, Sir John Malcolm's description of the general situation and character of the Marhatta princes of Malwa, equally applies to the Bhooslah family of Nagpore. They were military leaders, with the habits generated from that profession. They have never left the plain manners of their nation; they are connected by the ties of blood, and by constant familiar intercourse with every one of their principal officers, and born in the class of cultivators, consequently having a hereditary respect for that order, and though not restrained by it, from every degree of cupidity and rapacity, yet seldom cruel to the lower classes, and almost always paying attention to established forms and institutions. With the restraints arising from such considerations, the Rajahs of Nagpore are, in theory, equally absolute as the Marhatta chiefs of Malwa, in the internal government of their dominions.

General situation and character.

Nature of their power.

In their own family and court, there were particular rights and immunities which they were compelled to admit, as imposed partly by what may be termed a family compact, and partly by their original relation to the head of the Marhatta empire; and in their external concerns, there were certain obligations, extorted as we have seen by treaty, due to that head, which detracted from their sovereignty, not indeed to the extent of reducing them to the condition of mere feudatories, but certainly to that of rendering them accountable for their political and military operations, and even bound to certain pecuniary payments, as well as military services.

Domestic and foreign checks.

It is more easy, however, to give an idea of the political situation of the Rajahs of Nagpore, from a reference to the particular circumstances of their domestic and foreign history, than from any attempt at a general description of their rights and duties.

From

From the former, then, it appears, that there was always a division of the territories of the state amongst the brothers of the reigning Prince, after the first Rughojee. First, between the sons of Rughojee, Janojee, Sabajee, Moodhojee, and Beembajee. Secondly, between the sons of Moodhojee, viz. Rughojee, Chimnajee, and Yenkojee; and thirdly, after Yenkojee's death, Appa Sahib, his son, succeeded to his appanage, under his uncle Rughojee. In all these cases of division, the elder brother, as the Rajah, or sovereign, had a right to the allegiance of the others, and to certain military services on account of their fiefs or appanages. But the latter managed their country entirely, and they had their separate courts, households, ministers, and armies, subject to no interference whatever on the part of the Rajah. With regard, however, to foreign states, the Rajah legally represented the whole; appeals even to the Peshwa, though not uncommon on the part of the younger branches of the family, were considered irregular, and their reception by the court of Poona, expressly guarded against by treaty. Yet were the obligations to foreign states contracted by the tenure of Jaghires, as that of Sabajee in Berar, under the Nizam, and that of Chimnajee in Mundilla, under the Peshwa, not deemed inconsistent with the general principle above noticed. This division, in the dominions of the state, was always a source of weakness. It originated in the application of the Hindoo laws of private to political inheritance, supported in the original division between the sons of the first Rughojee, by the maxim of the court of Poona, to govern by dividing. It was continued partly through the influence of the same policy, and partly from its having become a rule by prescription.

The same history tells us that when Rughojee was deputed to Berar, certain officers of that state, called Durruckdars and Maunkurees, were appointed to attend him from Sattara, and they followed him to Nagpore. For these officers he was bound to provide; and their dependence on the

the court of Poona rendered them a check upon that in which they were stationed as spies and informers. Whilst the Peshwas continued in the energetic exercise of power, these persons were constantly employed in effecting their purposes. Although the Rajahs had many means of conciliating them by gifts and salaries, still they all looked to the Poona dominions as their home, and, consequently, to the Peshwa as their sovereign. In the wars between the latter and the Bhooslahs, they were always secretly employed in forwarding the views of the Peshwas, and in the civil discord that frequently arose between the members of the Bhooslah family, that party which was favoured at Poona, was always upheld by them.

Under Appa Sahib, all the possessions of the state became united under one head; and it will rest with the British Government to decide whether it shall ever again be subdivided, should the occasions occur in which it has formerly become so.

The dependence on the court of Poona was nominally dissolved by the treaties of Bassein and Deogaum. Virtually, however, it continued to possess a certain degree of substance during the reign of the last Rughojee, and the headlong folly of Appa Sahib, notwithstanding a new treaty, which still further abrogated that dependence, rendered it a source of destruction to himself. The British Government now stands in the light of the paramount state, and that of Nagpore is entirely dependant upon it as to its foreign concerns, as well as its domestic government.

Right of succession in the Bhooslah family.

It may be useful, here, to give a sketch of the general principles which are acknowledged to regulate the succession to the Gadee, or Musnud, in the Bhooslah family. The fundamental maxim upon which it depends is, that " it is hereditary in the entire male line, from the common ancestor

tor, or first founder of the dynasty, to the exclusion of females or their issue; but that the right may be limited or changed by the reigning Prince adopting a successor according to the rules of the Hindoo law."

That the Government is hereditary, may be shewn from the course of descent in the Bhooslah family, and the exclusion of females, and their issue may be collected from it, and from the general practice of other Hindoo state. Both these maxims were fully acknowledged by all parties at the court of Nagpore, in the disputes which arose on the death of the last Rughojee, between Appa Sahib and the partizans of the adoption by Pursojee, of the present Rajah, in 1816. It was by adoption alone that they pretended to effect the defeat of Appa Sahib's claim to succeed his first cousin, Pursojee, in the event of his death, though the present Rajah was the grandson of Rughojee by his daughter, and Appa Sahib was his nephew, the son of his brother. We recognized Appa Sahib's right, because Pursojee was acknowledged to be too imbecile in intellect to exercise, sui juris, the privilege of adoption.

The right of the reigning prince to supersede the claim of the presumptive heirs, by adopting a successor, was once exercised;—Janojee, the eldest son and successor of the first Rughojee, having no children, adopted his nephew, Rughojee, for this purpose. In spite of this act, his brother, Sabajee, supported by the court of Poona, seated himself on the musnud, and subsequently, Moodhojee, the father of Rughojee; but, though the latter wielded the sceptre until his death, he governed in the name of his son Rughojee, and Janojee's nomination was, in the end, sanctioned by the court of Poona, conferring upon Rughojee the superior title of Sena Sahib Soobah, whilst Moodhojee had the inferior one of Sena Dhoorundur.

Rughojee the second, in the latter years of his life, seeing the imbeci-

lity of his son Pursojee, and either feeling temporary disgust towards Appa Sahib, or apprehending the ruin he would be likely to bring upon the Nagpore state, had serious thoughts of adopting a child of the Oomraotee family of Bhooslahs, or of a more distant branch, but the plan appears to have been abandoned almost as soon as formed.

Another maxim, generally acknowledged, is, that on the death of a Rajah leaving no male heir, it is the privilege of his principal widow to adopt a child from the relations of her husband, to succeed him, and herself to govern in his name. We followed this principle in our arrangements for setting up the present Rajah.

His Highness has not yet any children, and should he die without them, the question of adoption would recur. It seems that this right is generally, though not absolutely, limited in the choice of persons to relations. In the discussions on the subject which have taken place at Nagpore, the plans of adoption have never gone beyond the male relations of the family above the common ancestor, Rughojee the first, or those of his female descendants. The nearest remaining male descendants, in the direct female line, after the present Rajah, are a son of his sister, and Goojabba, the nephew of the last Rughojee, on the sister's side. Saloo Baee, the youngest daughter of the last Rughojee, and married to Kanojee Mohitia, has at present no issue. Taking the same rule which was followed with regard to the present Rajah, of choosing the nearest male descendant of the last Rajah who had any, the sister's son of the reigning Prince, who stands in the relation of great grandson to Rughojee second, the immediate ancestor, and any son who may hereafter be born to Saloo Baee, would be preferred to Goojabba, who is only descended from Moodhojee.

The

The wives of the Rajahs (for the Bhooslahs have all had several,) hold rank nominally, according to priority of marriage, but their real consideration arises from the degree of favor which they may enjoy. They have occasionally exercised great influence in the affairs of state, but less so, perhaps, at Nagpore, than in other Mahratta courts. Wives of the Raja

The reigning family, or those who can by possibility succeed, by inheritance, to the musnud, have always been confined to the descendants of the first Rughojee. The next nearest relations, taking the higher ancestor, Bappoojee, the grand-father of Rughojee, are the Bhooslahs of Oomraotee, who reside at Nagpore, but enjoy no peculiar privileges or rank in the state. The sons or nephews, in the male line, or the Bhooslahs alone, have ever been regarded with any particular respect. These, as well as the wives or daughters of the Rajah, are allowed provisions in land and money, besides the supply of certain necessaries and luxuries direct from the Rajah's palace. The females when married, pass into the family of their husbands, but retain rank during their lives, which sets them somewhat above their condition by marriage. The immediate descendants from females were, perhaps, treated as secondary princes, but being the sons of Mahratta chiefs, called Maunkurees, they have no right to anything but the rank and allowances of their parents. Reigning family.

The rank and privileges of the different chiefs and ministers at the court of Nagpore, are so little defined by any fixed rules, that after the reigning family, and their immediate connections amongst the Maunkurees, it is sufficient to distinguish the rest of the court into civil and military functionaries of the Government. Court.

When Rughojee Bhooslah established himself at Nagpore, the following were the civil officers of his Government. The Moozoomdar, or Dewan, Civil Officers.

Dewan, was the head of all departments of the state, under the Rajah, and was his own immediate servant.

The Phurnuveese was originally appointed by the Rajah of Sattara, to keep an account of the receipts and disbursements of Rughojee, as Mukasdar, or collector of the Choute of Berar. The same person continued to exercise these duties in Deogurh, and subordinate Phurnuveeses, his deputies, were sent to all the districts. All Sunnuds, orders, and grants on the revenue, proceed from this office, and he may be considered as the accountant-general of the Government.

The Wurar Pandia was an officer, with deputies all over the country, to keep the Lugwan accounts of the actual state of the cultivation, occupancy, and rents of the lands. The office existed under the Gonds, and was continued by the Mahrattas.

The office of Prittee, under the Gond Rajah, corresponded to the Mahratta one of Phurnuveese, and during the reign of Rughojee they were allowed to keep a double set of accounts. In the country, the Gond Rajah had only Hoordars, to keep accounts of the Hissa Pruseed, or partition established by treaty, and copies of those of the Phurnuvees. They also countersigned and sealed all revenue papers and grants. Janojee transferred the Prittee and his Duftur to his own Cutcherry, but the office subsequently became merely nominal. The Hoordars still continue, on the part of the Gond Rajah, in all districts of which he enjoys a share of the revenue.

The Chitnuveese is the general secretary, in whose office all orders, grants, and letters are expedited or answered.

The

The Jamdar was at once the treasurer and keeper of the wardrobe and jewel office.

When Rughojee first came to Nagpore, he had an officer in the situation of Siccanuweese, but it has been long exinct. The Sicca is kept in the Sillakhanah, and the ancient emoluments have been resumed. The mere act of affixing the seal to public papers, and some fees, are usually given to the minister who acts as Dewan.

The Moonshee is, properly speaking, the secretary for Persian correspondence. After the death of Dewajee Punt Cherghore, who was, for so many years, prime minister under Janojee and Moodhojee, Bhuwanee Pundit, and his son Sreedhur Pundit Moonshee, successively became premiers, and enjoyed at once the perquisites of the Dewan, and the office and emoluments of secretary for foreign affairs.

The principal bankers of the city had not only a place in the Durbar, according to their wealth and consequence, but frequently a voice in deliberations on state affairs. One of them had the superior title of Nuggur Naick, which imported a general authority over the mercantile and banking community, and was also intended as the means of facilitating loans and other financial arrangements.

Ministry under the late Mahratta Princes.

It is to be observed, that all the principal officers of the state are, by custom, hereditary; and though a person may lose the consideration and perquisites, and be supplanted in the duties of his office, he is never deprived of the name and a share of the regulated allowances of it. In the details and executive part of the administration, the officers of each department are confined to their particular duties, but in deliberations on general questions of external and internal policy, the Rajah calls, indifferently,

ferently, any of the ministers to his councils. Since the peace of Deogaum, the ministry have been divided into two parties, who had the care of the Rajah, according to the prevailing disposition of the moment. Sreedhur Pundit was consulted by Rughojee in every thing, even his domestic affairs, and was, as far as Rughojee's jealous and meddling temper allowed, his prime minister: under him, in English affairs, were Jeswunt Rao Ramchunder, the person who negotiated the treaty of Deogaum, and Jykishn Pundit, who together transacted business with the British Resident. Nardba Chitnuveese, who was allowed to usurp many of the functions of his principal, Gungadhur Rao, was the principal support of the party of the Peshwa, Sindia, and Holkar, or of the old principles of policy, consisting in keeping up the Marhatta confederacy. Sudeek Ullee Khan, Jeswunt Rao Bhow, Umrut Rao Bukshee, Narrain Pundit, and some others, were not unfrequently associated in cabinet councils, but the Rajah usually decided for himself.

Sreedhur Pundit, Narrain Pundit, and Umrut Rao Bukshee, are dead; the former without issue, so that his office is, at present, in abeyance.

Appa Sahib's councils were composed, in addition to the above, of several low and intriguing characters, whose names were only brought to notice by his momentary caprice; but who can never rise to distinction under any regular or respectable order of things.

Inferior departments.

Inferior to the ministers above mentioned, were the Khasgee Walla, or manager of the private revenue and trade, and controller of the household expences; a chief of the Shagird Pesha, who superintended the internal economy of the palace; also superintendents of the wardrobe, the jewel office, the Kothee, or magazine of grain, &c. the elephant and camel department, and of buildings, aqueducts, &c. There was also the naick,

or

or chief of the Hirkaras, or Jasooses, who was not only the head of the foreign intelligence department, but had establishments in every Purgunnah, at once to assist and to overlook the proceedings of the Kumaishdars.

Military Officers.

The principal military guards were those of the Bukshee, who may be termed secretary at war, and pay master-general; Soobahdars of provinces. as Berar, Gurra Mundilla, &c. who had high civil and military powers; the Marhatta chiefs, or Maunkurecs, of old families, not holding high commands; and the Yukas, or Yukandees, who are single horsemen, with high pay, and of good families, either Hindoos or Mahommedans, whose post was near the person of the Rajah, or of the Chief, sometimes a member of the family, to whom the Zuree Putka, or royal standard, was entrusted; the commandants of divisions of horse and infantry; the Rissaldars of horse; the chiefs of the Pagah, or household troops, and the commandants of infantry and artillery.

The ministers, connected with the military department, were the Surdufter of the army estimates; the Bukshee, who superintended the pay masters of the troops, and received the general returns, having under him deputies for the horse and infantry, respectively; the Pugnuveese, who conducted all the business of the Pagah, and a similar officer for the artillery. The expences both of the Pagah and the artillery, were superintended by the Khasgee Walla, or controller of the household expences; the horse, cattle, and every thing belonging to both, being the property of the Rajah.

General course of business.

There were no separate officers of rank connected with judicature or police. The revenue officers of the districts had the charge of these branches, though there were courts in the city for civil justice in petty suits,

suits, and for police. The higher causes of a civil nature and crimes of magnitude were usually sent to the Rajah himself, who decided upon them with the advice of his ministers, and occasional Punchayuts, but without any of the regularity or parade of judicial sittings. Such cases were treated like common questions of politics, revenue, or other daily business, in the Durbar, and every one present might put in his word.

For the dispatch of business, the ministers in the different departments, or their deputies, attended daily at the palace at stated hours, unless when fasts or festivals intervened. In the smallest, however, as in the greatest affairs in every department, the Rajah was referred to, nor did any inconvenience in the matter of delay to the public service arise from this system, for even when not actually sitting in Durbar, the Rajah was always accessible to any person who had business to propound to him, and when in Durbar, the greatest apparent festivity, was no bar to more serious affairs where immediate attention was requisite, on the part of the Rajah. As the Rajah and the Government are, therefore, synonimous terms, it may not be uninteresting to give an account of the way in which Janojee, to whose reign the best days of the country and people are referred, is stated to have passed his time.

Habits of the Rajah.

When four Ghurees of the night remained, Janojee rose from his bed, performed his morning ablutions and athletic exercises until day break, when the officers of state, and those of the household were admitted to pay their respects, and to make their daily reports to him in his bathing room. Here also he heard the foreign Akhbars, and the verbal reports of his intelligencers, and gave private audiences. From thence he proceeded to the family chapel, assisted at the morning service, to the household gods, by throwing flowers and the Toolsee before their images, listened to some of the sacred poems, and distributed alms to Bramins. When four

four Ghurees of the day were spent, he dressed himself and came out to an open verandah looking in the street, where he held his morning Durbar, was visible to the people, and accessible to their personal calls for justice, and redress for injuries. He always sat on his musnud with his sword and shield before him, badges which his less warlike successors disused. The whole of the ministers, military chiefs, and Mootsuddees, with their Dufturs attended, and carried on their daily business before him. The Durbar broke up about noon, at which time the Rajah went to take his dinner with his family, and afterwards reposed himself.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, he rose and inspected his arms, horses, elephants, &c. after which he again sat in Durbar for the despatch of business until after sun-set. The ministers remained to a later hour.

It is observed, that in this reign, justice was well administered; crimes were few, and the punishments seldom capital. The revenues were flourishing, and the people in easy circumstances. The allowances of all officers, civil and military, and of the troops, were regularly paid without deduction of any kind.

Etiquette and ceremonies.

The etiquette and ceremonies of the court of Nagpore were never very burthensome. The Rajah received almost every stranger of any rank, nearly as his equal, rising to take his salute and to embrace him. In many cases he gave the Istikbal, or public reception, personally, that is, he moved out with all the principal persons of his court to meet the new comer. On common occasions, in the Durbar, the Rajah was not to be distinguished from any other individual, either by his dress or his seat. On greater occasions he wore jewels, and made use of a musnud, merely consisting of a few pillows, and, perhaps, an embroidered carpet of silk.

At the Dasserah, however, the display of troops and elephants, and the splendor of the dresses and ornaments of the Rajah and principal people, were imposing.

Salaries and emoluments of Ministers.

The salaries of the ministers and officers of the court were not nominally high. They were partly defrayed in cash, partly in villages, granted rent-free, and partly in dues on appointments in their departments, and per centages on the revenues of the country. They were each permitted to keep up a certain number of horse at the fixed rates of pay, and one or more elephants were allotted to them according to their situations. They had also the payment of their subordinates. Those who had any thing to do with foreign officers, held besides, handsome Jaghires and pensions from the other Indian Governments.

Private traffick of the Rajah, &c.

From the Rajah downwards to the lowest Mootsuddee, no means of making money, by traffick, was deemed disgraceful, and the revenues of Government, as well as the interests of the industrious classes of the population, were sacrificed to give them monopolies in the various articles which they chose to deal in. Whole bazars in the city were the property of the Rajah himself, his ladies, and his ministers, with various privileges, and remissions of duties, totally subversive of free trade. Rughojee made every advantage of the necessities of his troops and subjects, caused by his own measures. He withheld the pay of the former, and, in the mean time, through his various banking establishments, he lent them money for their immediate subsistence, at enormous interest, and when he paid them in arrears, he gave a third in clothes, from his own Dookans, at enhanced values. He exacted advances of revenue from his collectors, and was frequently himself the lender of the money to the Ryots, like other Sahookars, at high rates of interest, and frequently forced the grain in his stores on the Bunneas of the city, at his own prices. Grass and

and wood, for building and fuel, were publicly sold by him, and other sales frequently stopped, until his own stock was disposed of; thus taking the bread from the poorest classes of people by competing with them in their traffick in these articles. In short, no source of gain, however trifling, escaped him, or the members of his family and court.

From this spirit of meanness and rapacity, as well as from his unwarlike character, Rughojee was not unfrequently called, in derision, the great Bunneah; and it must be confessed, that in public as well as private concerns, the love of money has, for the last twenty years, appeared to be the predominating passion in the court of Nagpore, to the exclusion of every thing great, liberal, or even respectable.

SECTION SIXTH.

ADMINISTRATION OF REVENUE.

THE general heads under which the revenue was collected under the Marhatta Government, were land revenue, Kullalee, Senaee and Pandree, Sair, city customs, including mint, &c. and the Oobaree of Zeemindars. All these collections, with the exception of the city customs, and Oobarees, were in the hands of the Kumaishdars of Purgunnahs, who were at once officers of revenue, justice, and police. The land revenue, first and chiefly demands attention, and as we have in no material degree deviated from the ancient system, but only have struck without sparing, at those parts of the Marhatta administration which were manifest and tyrannical innovations and abuses, it will be proper to introduce in this place a brief delineation of that system and practices.

Part 1st.

LAND REVENUE

System in Deogurh and Chanda.

Of the present dominions of the Rajah of Nagpore, west of the Lanjhee hills, some districts were acquired from the Mahomedans, and in them

them the Moghul mode of administration has long prevailed, nominally at least, and will be noticed hereafter. In the other parts of the country, conquered from the Gonds, a different system is found, which, although not to be traced to a very remote period, is probably ancient. It was certainly that of the Gonds, and has been essentially preserved by their conquerors.

Divisions into Pergunnahs and villages.

The whole of the country, from an early period, seems to have been divided into *Pergunnahs*, each consisting of an indefinite number of villages, and varying greatly both in extent and value. To each of them were attached, under the Gond Government, the common Zemindar establishment of *Desmookh* and *Despandia*, but the Marhattas soon removed them, retaining only the general manager, whose denomination they changed from *Hoddar* to *Kumaishdar*, the Keeper of the Government accounts, who was formerly called *Mohurir* but now *Phurnaveese*, and the *Burar Pandeea*, or recorder of the village accounts.

Pergunnah officers.

Village officers.

In each village there is, generally, a *Putel*, having one or two assistants under him, called *Kotwars*, *Pandia*, or accountant, together with the usual establishment of *Barra Bulootee*, or *Aykerree*, found throughout most parts of the *Deckan*.

Putels—their functions.

The *Putel* exercises the usual functions of the office, that is, he is the agent of Government for apportioning and collecting the rent of his village, for which his responsibility is absolute, and he possesses a subordinate and rather undefined magisterial and judicial authority. The remuneration for agency and responsibility, which is paid either in money or in rent-free land, besides certain trifling dues and privileges, is commonly one-fourth of the Government share, subject to various deductions, being proportional parts of the many divisions under which the assess-

Allowances.

ment was classed in the revenue papers, and which reduce it to about one-sixth. The office is held at the pleasure of Government, being neither hereditary nor saleable, and on the ejection or resignation of the incumbent, no *Malikanah* is allowed. It is true, that *Putels* are frequently succeeded by their sons, or other members of their families; not, however, by virtue of any hereditary right, but by sufferance, or a new appointment by Government, and whoever the incumbent may be, he is charged with the full exercise of all the duties, and entitled to all the privileges of the office, unincumbered with any interference or claims on the part of his predecessor or family.

Rights.

Cultivators.

The cultivators hold their lands on a yearly lease, granted them by the *Putel*. None of them are entitled to cultivate the same fields in perpetuity, nor is it the practice to grant leases to them for more than one year. No class has a right to hold their fields on more favorable terms than others; every field liable to assessment, being subject to the payment of its full proportion of the whole *Jumma*, which, as well as the proportionate share of each separate field or parcel, is open to yearly variations.

Their rights.

Cultivated lands, how divided.

The cultivated lands of each village are divided into fields, each distinguished by a name, under which it is recorded in the village register's accounts, and it is upon those fields, that the assessment is apportioned; but throughout this tract of country no traces of fixed assessments, or of assessment rates, either general or village, are to be found. The total *Jumma* of villages constantly fluctuates, and in regard to rates, the revenue papers make no reference to them, and the people have no understanding that a portion of land, of given extent and quality, is to pay a certain rent, or that a given portion of the produce is the Government share. Even the engagements for bringing waste lands into cultivation, where

Not assessed according to fixed rates.

where some remains of other principles, had such ever existed, were likely to be found, are not made with reference to rates or to a partition of crops, but are settled by *Nuzzerandazah*, or estimate, into which all the considerations affecting rent, seem to enter. Neither in theory nor practice does Government admit the right of any class of cultivators to participate in the full amount of the rents of the lands; and the object of its revenue system appears to have been to realize from every portion of the lands, under cultivation, a proportionate share of the total village assessment. In what manner this was effected, shall now be explained.

Waste lands assessed by Nuzzerandazah.

Here, as in most other parts of India, annual settlements are concluded at the commencement of the agricultural year, between the Ryuts on the one part, and the *Putel*, acting as the Government Agent, on the other; but here, at the time of concluding them, which is termed *Istimalut*, the total village assessment is unknown, and the amount of it is not regulated by the community, consequently, it is not possible at this time to fix the rent to be paid by each portion of land.

General mode of Assessment.

In the village papers, all the lands are classed under the two denominations of *Chal* and *Thok*. The former term is applied to fields, for which the *Putel* can conclude engagements, by which the renters bind themselves to pay a stated proportion of the whole village assessment, whatever it may be. The latter term refers to fields, which the *Putel* cannot rent under the other stipulation, and is consequently obliged to let out at a fixed rent, not subject to any alterations whatever. It must be understood, however, that the lands which, in any one year, are respectively *Chal* and *Thok*, do not always remain so, but pass from under the one denomination to the other, in conformity with the changes in the engagements between the *Ryuts* and *Putels*.

Lands classed as *Chal* and *Thok*.

How assessed respectively.

The

The lands let under the *Thok* engagement, bear but a small proportion to the others, and as the *Chal* fields pay the highest rent, lands in the progress of deterioration pass from the *Chal* to the *Thok*, and when advancing in improvement, from the *Thok* to the *Chal*. The relative proportions of *Thok* and *Chal* fields vary in every village, depending on the general rate of the village assessment, the existing demand for land, and various other circumstances.

It would appear then, that the only lands of which the rent can be fixed at the annual settlement, are those called *Thok*. In regard to the greatest and most valuable portion, all that can be done, is to settle the proportional part of the whole assessment, which each contracting individual is ultimately to contribute; but, in order to effect this object, it is necessary to have the means of expressing and recording the proportional value of each field or portion of *Chal* land. The lands never having been measured, this is done by the use of nominal equivalents to specific portions of land. In some villages, these equivalents are rupees and annas; in others, *Pands**, divided into sixteen fractional parts, also called annas; the names of cowries and sooparees, are likewise employed for the same purpose. Every *Chal* field is rated in the village yearly accounts at so many rupees, or annas, or cowries, the amount of which is altered to express the changes that may arise in the proportional valuation of the fields.

Value of *Chal* lands how expressed.

This expression of the proportional value is called the *Ain* of a field: if in one year the respective *Ains* of two fields, should be three and four annas, or cowries, these contribute in that ratio, to the general assessment, and should it be necessary to alter the rates, it is effected by raising

* A measure of land.

ing or lowering the *Ain* of either of them. The man who has settled the *Ain* of his fields at eight annas, knows he will have to pay double of his neighbor's rent, whose fields are rated at four; and one half of what another must contribute, whose lands are valued at one rupee.

Village *Lagwuns*, or rent rolls.

Amongst other papers, there is one prepared in each village, called the *Lagwun*. It is the record in which are inserted the details of the engagements concluded, at the commencement of each season, between the *Putel* and the *Ryuts*. It shews the name of each *Ryut*, the name of each *Chal* field held by him, and the *Ain* of those fields as settled in the preceeding year; also the same particulars for the current year, noting all changes, whether arising from the transfer of fields from one individual to another, or from a variation in the *Ain* of any of the fields. A similar statement regarding the *Thok* fields is also given, every alteration on the rent of them being specified, as likewise all transfers of *Thok* to *Chal*, or of *Chal* fields to *Thok*; and should any land be newly engaged for, or thrown out of cultivation, the change is recorded, when, in fine, the amount of the Government demand is known, the rate of assessment on each unit of the *Ain*, and which is denominated *Dhara*, is also inserted.

In concluding the settlement for any given year, the *Lagwun* of the preceding one is usually adopted, as the basis on which the new engagements are framed, as well as the standard, with reference to which all changes are noted and understood.

Did no circumstances connected with the state of the cultivation, or the means and inclinations of the cultivators, render changes necessary, the settlement would naturally be the same as that of the former year; any difference in the total village assessment, having no direct influence on those previous engagements. In fact, however, it seldom or never

 happens,

happens, that the settlements of two years are made in conformity with each other, and as so many contending interests are at stake, they are seldom concluded, without much discussion between the parties. In the end, however, every arrangement is, in general, amicably concluded, the details are entered into the *Lagwun* of the year, and the settlement considered complete. By a reference to the *Lagwun* so prepared, the Government assessor can see at one view, every change from the assessment of the former year, that has taken place, and can, with facility, estimate what amount the several portions of land will have to contribute to any given assessment. When that is fixed, from the amount of it the total rent of the *Thok* fields is deducted, and the remainder being divided by the number of units in the whole *Ain*, the *Dhara*, or rate of assessment of the *Chal* fields, is given.*

It appears, then, that at the *Istimalut*, the *Patel*, with reference to the settlement of the previous year, makes agreements for the assessment of the current one; that those agreements stipulate for the payment of a fixed sum from a small portion of the lands, and settle the apportionment of the remainder of the assessment on the others. As the amount of the Government demand, and of defalcations that may subsequently occur, are unknown, more definite arrangements cannot be effected. The engagements concluded, the *Patel* knows he has settled the mode in which the whole *Jumma*, whatever it may be, is to be collected, and the *Ryuts* are informed as to the proportion in which each is to contribute to it, and this is sufficient to induce them to commence their yearly labors.

In

* See an illustration of this mode of assessment in the Appendix No. 2.

In fact, the *Istimalut* is a preparatory *Kulwar*, or *Ryutwar* settlement, in which a new apportionment of the assessment is made, in order to meet the changes that may have arisen in the state of the lands and their cultivators. The object in view is, to apply the village assessment, so that the proportion of it assessed on each portion, may be correctly adapted to the actual state of the lands and the *Ryuts*, and the attainment of it is left to the village community, in whose hands alone, perhaps, there is any chance of its being effected.

From what has been already said, it will appear, that the amount of the village assessment is not regulated by any specific rules. The lands were first brought into cultivation under a lease, commonly paying a *Russud Jumma*, not settled with reference to any acknowledged standard, but merely as the parties could agree. On the expiration of this lease, the village becomes subject to its due proportion of the Pergunnah assessment, and it is the object of the revenue officers, to assimilate the rate of it, to that of the other villages of the district; the amount paid the last year probably being assumed as the assessment, with reference to which all subsequent charges are introduced.

Formerly, after the completion of the *Istimalut*, the Putels were assembled at the *Kusbah*, when the *Kumaishdar*, with the assistance of the other revenue officers, settled the apportionment of the whole Pergunnah assessment (which might be more or less than that of the former year, as the Government determined,) upon the different villages composing it, generally, in conformity with the *Tufseek*, or distribution of last year, as far as practicable, but introducing changes which might have become necessary from alterations in the relative capability of some of the villages. From an examination of the *Lagwuns*, and from enquiries often made by persons despatched for that specific purpose, he could ascertain the

the relative amount of land, subject to the assessment, and if possessed of the knowledge he ought to have of his business, there is no doubt an experienced revenue officer may lay on the assessment, with as correct an adaptation to the circumstances of the several villages, as could probably be obtained by any other mode.

Summary of the system.

The annual demand of the Government on a village was founded on, but not regulated by the previous year's assessment, and the whole system may be briefly stated thus.

Every portion of cultivated land, but no other, is liable to assessment. The Government demand is on the village lands in general, and not on the particular portions of it; consequently, the apportionment of the assessment falls, where the responsibility does, namely, on the Putel and village community, and there are no fixed rates to prevent the apportionment going hand in hand with changes in the lands, or in the circumstances of the cultivators; and as the proportionate share of the whole assessment, demandable from each village, was not originally fixed, nor subsequently modified, according to any determinate rules, but merely to the relative capability of the village, as indicated by former experience, so the Purgunnah assessment was, in like manner, grounded on previous settlements; but affected, no doubt, in a great degree, by the character and circumstances of the existing Government.

Mode of increasing the assessment by *Puttees* and *Burguns*.

The mode in which the assessment of a Purgunnah was raised by the Gonds, as well as by the Marhatta Government, was by superinducing *Puttees*, or *Burguns*, which were extra per centages on a certain portion of the whole assessment, called the *Ain Jummabundee*. What this was originally, cannot now be ascertained. Under the Gonds it was, probably, the amount of the whole *Jumma*, at the time of their putting on

on the first *Puttee*. The Marhattas applied it to express the whole land revenue, in their taking possession of the country; but we should now look to it in vain, for the ascertainment of the revenue as it stood at that time, because all yearly deductions on account of lands thrown out of cultivation, as well as reductions in the rent of particular portions, were made partly from the *Ain Jummabundee*, which, consequently, has greatly diminished, whilst the whole *Jumma*, from the constant introduction of new *Puttees*, has greatly increased; indeed every additional *Puttee* changed the proportion of the *Ain Jummabundee* to the whole assessment. Many of these *Puttees* were imposed on the whole country generally; a few or particular *Pergunnahs* only: occasionally they were put on, for one or two years, and then taken off, but most commonly they became part of the permanent assessment. Still the amount collected on each separate *Puttee*, continued to be inserted in the revenue papers, under a distinct head, which added not a little to their length and intricacy.

Amount of Puttees imposed at different times.

From what has been said respecting the mode of superinducing the *Puttees*, it will be understood that no accurate judgment of the actual increase of the *Jumma* can be formed from a knowledge of the different *Puttees* that have been imposed from time to time; they, however, may be here mentioned. Those of the first RUGHOJEE, from one thousand seven hundred and forty-three, to one thousand seven hundred and fifty-five, amounted to eighty per cent. on the *Ain Jummabundee*; those of JANOJEE, from one thousand seven hundred and fifty-five, to one thousand seven hundred and seventy-two, to ninety-six per cent.; those of SUBAJEE, between one thousand seven hundred and seventy-two and one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, to thirty-two per cent.; of MOODHOJEE, in thirteen years, to thirty-five per cent.; and RUGHOJEE the second, outdoing all his predecessors, imposed between one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two and one thousand eight hundred and sixteen *Puttees*, amounting to one hundred and thirty per cent.

Period of Collection.

The collections of the land revenue were divided into two portions, the first of twelve annas in the rupee, called the *Phonkuree*, or *Sesanin-ka-Towjeeh;* of this four annas were payable in September, four annas in October, and the remainder in November; the other called the *Char Pyse-ka-Towjeeh*, was payable in two instalments, in February and March.

Pergunnah servants.

It has been already stated, that the Marhattas abolished the situations of *Desmook* and *Despandiah* throughout this portion of their territories, resuming their *Wuttundaree* dues, preserving only the offices of the *Kumaishdar*, *Phurnaveese*, and *Burar Pandea*. The two last named officers were appointed by, and subordinate to their respective superiors at Nagpore, the *Sudder Phurnaveese*, and *Sudder Burar Pandia*. To the *Dufter* of the former, the different accounts of receipts and disbursements of each Purgunnah were forwarded, and to that of the latter, the records regarding the state of the cultivation. The *Phurnaveese* received from Government an allowance from one hundred to two hundred and fifty rupees per annum, with a *Durdehee* of one rupee from each village, in their Pergunnahs, and one rupee on all orders and papers issued from their offices. The *Burar Pandias* received from Government, from one hundred to one hundred and fifty rupees a year, and had two rupees on each village. The *Kumaishdars* had from two hundred to five hundred rupees per annum; they also received *Nuzzurs* and various other contributions from their Purgunnahs. In particular, the collection and disbursement of the *Burguns*, were a great source of profit to the *Kumaishdars*.

Their pay and emoluments.

Village establishments.

The Putels.

The *Putel* and his functions have been already cursorily mentioned, and as his duties in no particular, essentially differ from those of the same officers in other parts of the country, any further account of them is here unnecessary. His share was, in most districts, a fourth, in others a sixth

of

of the whole collections ; but subject to deductions, by which it was considerably reduced ; but as the deductions were per centages on particular portions of the revenue, which do not bear a uniform proportion to the whole village assessments, although the nominal shares were the same, in many cases they were different in reality. In point of fact, however, the allowance to *Putels* had not been admitted by the Government for many years previously to our assuming charge, and the profits of the *Putels* arose from whatever they could collect surreptitiously from the *Ryuts*, over and above the Government demand, which they often contrived to do, to a considerable amount, in consequence of the system of *Burguns*, and when possessed of capital, from the advances of money and grain they made to the poorer *Ryuts*.

Village officers, or Aykerree.

The village officers are called *Aykerree*, and the establishment of them was found tolerably complete. It consists of ten persons, besides the *Putel*, viz. the *Pandia*, *Joshee*, *Cotwar*, *Bhoomuck*, *Parpugare*, *Waree* or carpenter, *Khatee* or blacksmith, *Chumar*, *Mahlee* or barber and *Wurhtee* or washerman. The first six persons are termed *Sirkar Sumundy*, or Sirkar servants, although they are chiefly paid by the *Kirsans*. The other five are termed *Saon Sumundy*, as they are exclusively paid by the *Kirsans*.

Pandia.

The *Pandia* is the village accountant ; he keeps the *Lugwuns* and all village accounts ; his office is not hereditary ; the appointment is generally made by the *Putel*, and consequently, he has much the character of a private servant. He has a money payment of from fifteen to ninety rupees per annum from the Government, and in a few cases, a field rent-free.

Joshee.

The *Joshee* is a sort of astrologer and priest, who points out the lucky

lucky and unlucky days for commencing ploughing and sowing, and in all occasions of importance, connected with the agricultural labors of the community. He also officiates at births, deaths, and marriages, and at religious ceremonies of all kinds. He is always a Bramin, and has a *Pothee*, or almanac, the repository of all his knowledge. He usually has a small field of little value, in *enaum*, one or two rupees from the *Gaon-Khurch* allowance, a *Cooroo*, or eight *Pylees* of grain from each *Kirsan* annually, alms from the *Kirsans* at festivals, &c.

Cotwar. The *Cotwar*, or village watchman, is a person of considerable importance in the village community. He is always a *Dher*, and ought to be possessed of great quickness and intelligence. The *Cotwar* knows the name and rent of each field in the village, with the names of its occupants for many years back. He is equally the servant of the *Putel* and *Kirsan*, though he is often discharged from his office, when guilty of any fault, by the sole authority of the former, by whom he is employed as a sort of messenger in summoning the *Ryuts*, dunning them for their rents, carrying chittees and messages to the *Thannah*, or small sums of money; and he is employed by the *Kirsans*, in calling them to feasts, marriages &c. It is also the duty of the *Cotwar* to wait on travellers, to furnish them with *Begarees*, fire-wood, and supplies, and report all arrivals and departures. All extra requisitions by the *Sirkar* for forage, &c. are usually collected by the *Cotwar*. He is also the village watchman, and it is expected that he or some of his family, will be constantly on the alert at night, and moving about the village, to protect the inhabitants from thieves. When a theft or robbery has occurred, it is the business of the *Cotwars* to endeavor to trace the thieves from one village to another, in doing which they often display great sagacity. The *Cotwar* in large villages and towns, has often an assistant, the *Turrar*, who is also a *Dher*. The perquisites of the *Cotwar* are a field of little value, in *enaum; Meth Cooroo*,

Cooroo, or a *Cooroo* of grain from each plough; *Khursoot*, or the privilege of collecting the sweepings of the *Kullees*, or threshing floors; *Adhar*, the hides and carcases of dead animals. In some districts, he has petty dues of a few pice at marriages, festivals, &c. and the *Choongee*, or the right of taking a handful of grain, &c. from each basket carried into the bazar. The *Turrar* has a petty grain allowance from each *Kirsan*.

Bhoomak.

The business of the *Bhoomak*, who is a *Gond*, is to perform the customary worship of the boundary deities, on the proper occasions; to attend on the servants of the *Sirkar*, when they visit the village, bring them water, &c. He sometimes acts as a sort of a *Peon*, and armed with a sword and spear, accompanies marriage processions. He is also supposed to be a sort of magician, and to have the power of curing persons laboring under the influence of evil spirits, of charming tigers, &c. The perquisites of the *Bhoomack* are a rupee or two annually from the *Gaon Khurch* allowance, and a few pice, and two or three *Pylees* of grain, from each *Kirsan*.

Garpugaree.

The *Garpugaree* is also a sort of magician, and his peculiar business is to avert hail storms, and calamities of all kinds from the village. His perquisites are eight annas or a rupee, annually, from the *Gaon Khurch* allowance, and a couple of *Pylees* of grain from each *Kirsan*.

Carpenter, &c.

The remaining five officers have no allowance of any kind from the Government, and are exclusively paid by the community. The carpenter is obliged to repair the agricultural implements of the *Kirsans*, for which he has an allowance of four or five *Cooroos* annually from each plough. For new implements he is paid separately. The blacksmith is on the same footing. The *Chumar*, who mends the leathern apparatus of wells, &c., has also a trifling grain allowance. The washerman and barber have likewise petty dues.

All these village officers collect their own dues, after the harvest is gathered. The carpenter, blacksmith, and *Cotwar*, receive their dues regularly. The others, commonly, receive only a portion of theirs, and in bad years very little. These dues are always paid in the cheapest grains, as lac, &c. and they are distributed after the heaps of grain are collected on the field, and previous to its removal to the houses of the *Kirsans*. The dues of the village officers vary in different districts: the exact quantity of grain they are entitled to receive, depending on local usage.

Havildar and Pandhree Pandia.

In large villages there is, generally, an officer called the *Havildar*, who acts under the *Putel* in matters of police, and has an allowance from the Government, and in *Kusbahs*, a *Pandhree Pandia*, to keep the accounts of the *Pandhree* and *Kullulee*.

Mahratta administration.

It appears that the business of revenue was conducted in the office of the *Gond* Rajah, until about 1756, when *Janojee* transferred the *Dufters* to his own palace, taking the head officer of that department under the *Gonds* into his own service. For sometime subsequently to this change, the custom of assembling the principal *Putels* at Nagpore, twice a year, for the purpose of concluding their annual engagements, and of settling their accounts, was kept up; but in the reign of *Moodhojee*, it gradually fell into disuse, and was entirely discontinued during that of his son, when the *Kesbah*, or chief town of each *Purgunnah*, became the scene of all the direct operations of assessment.

Preliminary general assessment, how framed.

The revenue year commenced in June, at which period the *Istimalut* was made by the Putels as usual. In August, an *Ijmaeelee*, or estimate of the receipts and disbursements of each *Purgunnah*, for the current year, was sent from Nagpore. This paper was formed on the last annual account which had been received, and was intended as a general guide to the

the *Kumaishdar*, in making his demands, and appropriating his collections.

How applied in the Pergunnahs.

On the receipt of the *Ijmaeelee* (the *Putels* having been previously assembled at the *Kesbah)* it was compared with the actual amount realized from the villages in the preceding year. If the Government estimate had been formed on the accounts of the last year, no alterations were required to be made in the village assessments, excepting where the lands had fallen out of cultivation, which was called *Pur*, or there existed a necessity for granting remissions on certain lands, that were over assessed, which was denominated *Bad*. When the total amount of these deficiencies was ascertained, if there was no corresponding increase to be obtained, the *Pur* was made good by a *Burgun*, or extra impost on the whole Pergunnah, and the *Bad* by one on the village in which the remission was granted. It was seldom, however, that these claims were at all attended to. If the estimates exhibited an increase, it was assessed proportionably on the *Ain*.

Progress of collections.

The *Putels* were now informed of the amount which each had to pay, and dismissed to their villages to re-collect the *Paokurree*, or twelve anna payment, which was realized in three or four monthly instalments. In December, the *Putels* were re-assembled, and informed of the periods at which the remaining four annas were to be collected; being, generally, in three instalments. On this occasion, there was also an apportionment of the extra imports, both *Puttees* and *Burgurs*, whether emanating from the Government, or from the *Kumaishdar*, to cover his miscellaneous expenses.

Extra imposts assessed in the second period.

Mode of payment by Putels.

All these payments were made at the *Kesbah*, by the Putels, either in person, or through confidential agents, sometimes in cash, and sometimes in drafts on *Sahookars*. If a *Putel*, of a good character, happened

to

to be distressed, the *Kumaishdar* occasionally became security for him, and a *Sahookar* paid the amount due, on this security; otherwise, the *Putel* made over the whole collections of his village, or those of as many of his *Ryuts*, as would cover the debt. If the village was large, the *Sahookar* sent an agent to keep copies of the accounts; in most cases the *Sahookars* were satisfied with the accounts of the *Pandia*, which were compared and investigated in presence of the *Ryuts*, at the end of the year.

By the Ryuts.

The *Putels* were in the habits of collecting the twelve annas of the rent, on the first demand from their *Ryuts*. Those who were able paid in cash, others borrowed from the *Putel*, or gave bonds, on his security to *Sahookars*, who paid for them, the *Putel* keeping the property of the borrowers on restraint, until they liquidated their debts. These transactions often ended in the ruin of the *Ryuts*, who, when once involved, could seldom extricate themselves again.

Their debts, and the modes of settling them.

The following were the modes of borrowing and repayment in general use. First, the *Laonee*, which consists in making over to the creditor the grain of the crop on the ground, at a rate considerably under the Bazar price. Secondly, a simple loan, which the borrower agrees to repay, when he has sold his produce, with two per cent. interest per month; the mode was common in transactions with *Sahookars* only. When a *Putel* advanced money or grain, he invariably received *Sewaee*, or twenty-five per cent. interest, for whatever period the loan might have to run, which was usually only to the reaping of a particular crop. When a *Ryut* failed in his agreements, he was frequently obliged, on obtaining another advance, to pledge his cattle and implements of agriculture, as well as the produce of his fields. Should he still continue insolvent, the *Putel* seized every thing he had, and took a deed of sale from him, specifying the particulars of his property, and declaring that the transfer had been voluntary, and that he would never reclaim it.

The

The accounts of the *Ryuts* were generally settled before the first of *Chyte* (in April,) on which day the *Istimalut* commenced. The *Putel* was sometimes obliged to give *Tuccavee* advances to those of his *Ryuts*, who were in bad circumstances, or who had been particularly unfortunate, during the former year. The *Tuccavee* consisted of cash, for the purchase of cattle or agricultural implements, or these were furnished at a stated value, for which two per cent. per mensem was taken. *Beej* and *Potga*, or seed grain, and grain for the subsistence of the *Kirsdas*, and their families, required by the poorer classes, were also advanced by the Putel, or his banker, and twenty-five per cent. was charged, without reference to the time of re-payment. Those *Ryuts*, whose accounts had been settled, and who had made arrangements for *Tuccavee*, &c., generally entered into their annual engagements with the *Putel*, on the first day of the *Istimalut*. The others frequently did not come to any settlement for six weeks, or two months. The *Pawn*, or *Betel*, which is considered as the pledge of mutual good faith, was generally first given by the *Putel* to the *Ryuts* of most influence in the village, who, after concluding their own leases, afforded their aid to induce the rest to do so also.

Terms of *Tuccavee* advance and the *Istimalut*.

Of the districts mentioned, as having been subject to Mahommedan rule, the greater number were ceded by the *Nizam* to *Janojee*, about the year 1763, the others are the *Do Umullee* districts, the full share of which was obtained by the Nagpore Government, on the conclusion of the last war.

System in the districts formerly under the Moghul government.

The original revenue system was similar to that of *Toorul-mul*, the object of which appears to have been by measuring and classing the lands, to fix permanently the assessment of each portion, into which they might be divided. The last measurement and classification of the lands, in this part of the country, were made by *Moorshed Kooly Khan*, one of *Shah Jehan's* officers, about one hundred and seventy-three years ago.

The scheme totally failed here, as, indeed, it seems to have uniformly done elsewhere; but whether the failure arose from the measurement and classification being originally erroneous, from the oppression of Government, rendering a departure from the original arrangements necessary, or from the system being in itself impracticable and inapplicable to the state of the agricultural population, cannot be ascertained; it is certain, however, that for many years past, the collections have not been made in conformity with the original settlements, for not only have *Burguns* been imposed, occasioning the rates to vary, but the extent of the several portions of land, as given in the village papers, has been altered, so that there remains little or no similarity between the amount and distribution of either the *Pergunna*, or village assessments, as they now exist, and as they are exhibited in the old revenue papers. In fact, whilst some of the forms of the original system have been preserved, the principles of it, if indeed they were ever acted on for any length of time, have undergone a total change; instead of a fixed and invariable rent being taken from each field, it varies to an equal extent, and from the same causes as in those parts where no attempt to fix it has ever been made, and it is remarkable, how the forms of the one system have been applied to the other. The statement of the measurement of each field, which is inserted in the village papers, and was no doubt originally intended to secure a uniformity in the assessment of one portion in relation to that of another, is now used to express the changes in their relative value, which it is found necessary to make at the *Istimalut*, the proportionate value of a field being increased or diminished by augmenting or reducing the nominal extent of it; by this means, the effect of the classification of the lands, which remains unaltered, and which would otherwise be to fix their relative value, is altogether avoided, and the whole village lands are open to annual alterations in the apportionment of their assessment. The lands are rated agreeably to their classification, and pay proportionably to it,

but

but the actual amount depends on the Government demand, which again rests on the experience of former years assessments, and the policy of the existing Government; but necessarily regulated, in a great measure, although not by defined rules, by the amount of land in cultivation, its condition, and that of the *Ryuts*.

As this state of things is found in the *Do Umullee* districts, which were immediately under the Nizam's officers, it does not appear to have been the consequence of the rule of the Marhattas; they, however, have introduced certain changes in the form of the village papers in the districts, that have been longer under their undivided control, doing away with the *Durs*, or rates on the different kinds of land, and introducing an uniform yearly *Dhara* on the whole, and as the statement of the measurement serves as the *Ain*, the system is quite assimilated to the more general one already described.

Hereditary Putels.

The village establishments are on the same footing as those in other parts, as also the rights of the actual cultivators in relation to the soil; but the office of *Putel* is hereditary and saleable: this right is highly prized, and unwillingly relinquished; the share of the *Putel* is, besides many petty perquisites, fifteen per cent. on the whole land revenue of his village; that is, if he holds in land, of every one hundred and fifteen beegas, one hundred goes to the Government, and fifteen to the *Putel;* or if paid in money, of every rupees one hundred and fifteen, he receives rupees fifteen. This share is liable to reduction, or even to total resumption, to make up deficiencies, whenever the assessment falls short of the *Kamil Jumma* of *Moorshed Kooly Khan*, and although it may be partitioned into very minute portions, amongst numerous individuals in the course of descent, agreeably to the Hindoo Law of Inheritance, still no part becomes exempt from the liability to make good any failure in

in the Government demand, to meet which the whole of the dues may be sold, even without the *Putel's* consent, which is required whenever they may be disposed of for the liquidation of any other debt. When a *Putel*, however, becomes so greatly reduced in his circumstances, as to be unable to carry on the affairs of his village, the more usual course followed is, to make it over to a *Moostajir*, or renter, who receives the dues during the period he remains in charge, but is liable to be ousted by the hereditary *Putel*, whenever he chooses, and is in a condition to resume his charge. No length of time seems to destroy this right, which is considered imprescriptible. Formerly, when a *Putel* had no heir, the Government either permitted him to adopt one, or sold the *Putelgee* on his death. The usual arrangement in the latter case, was for the purchaser to give a sum equal to the whole village assessment, which is about five or six years purchase, but the Marhatta Government has never sold *Putelgees*. Whenever from the failure of heirs, they had come into its hands, common *Ijaradar Putels* were appointed.

Desmooks and Despandias

In these districts, there are also *Desmooks* and *Despandias*; their offices are hereditary, but not saleable. The dues of the former, are five, and those of the latter two and half per cent. on the *Kamil Jumma* of each village, besides a share of some of the *Siwaee Jumma* collections. These *Rusoom Zemindaree*, however, are not exactly seven and a half per cent. on the land revenue, for however much above the *Kamil*, the assessment of a village may be raised, the *Rusoom* are not proportionably increased, being limited to the per centage on the *Kamil*, at the same time that they are diminished in all cases, where the assessment falls short of that standard, so that the full amount of them is never leviable, except when every village in the *Purgunnah* is assessed to the full amount of the *Kamil*; besides which, when the gross assessment falls short of the *Kamil*, their dues are applicable to make up the deficiency.

The

The chief duty of these officers is to assist in the revenue settlements, and in particular, to make the *Tufreek*, or apportionment of the *Purgunnah* assessment on the several villages composing it; the *Despandia* prepares all the papers connected with the revenue of the *Purgunnah*, the village *Pandias* being subordinate to him.

In some of the districts, the Marhatta Government suspended the Zemindars from the exercise of their functions, but continued to them their established dues; in others, they still discharge their peculiar duties, and consequently have considerable influence amongst the agricultural community, but it is doubtful how far they exercise it to promote either the interests of the Government or the good of the people.

General effects of the Marhatta administration until 1792.

From the first establishment of the Marhatta power, until the year 1792, A. D., the country was prosperous, and the land revenue had then probably attained its just maximum, as far at least, as related to the actual condition of the cultivated lands, and the population; but from this period, the inhabitants begin to date the period of misrule and oppressive assessment, though it was not carried, at first, to the ruinous excess of exaction which marked the conduct of RUGHOJEE after the Marhatta war of 1802. Increased assessment in the regular form was, from that time, but a small part of the evils to which the inhabitants were subjected. RUGHOJEE was unwilling to reduce his military establishments in the degree required by his reduced means, and strove to raise the revenue of his remaining territory, to make up, in some measure, for his losses in the war. It now became customary for the Government to take large *nuzzurs* and advances of the rents, from the *Kumaishdars*, which they received with interest by *Burgurs*, or extraordinary imposts on the *Putels*, who levied, in their turns, as much as they could from the *Ryuts*. This was generally the course pursued in the districts nearest the capital. The

From 1792 to 1818.

 more

more distant ones were given in *Jaghire* to the military chiefs, in augmented estimates of their revenue, for the payment of troops. The nominal revenue of RUGHOJEE's territories was received by such means, in the interval mentioned, from sixty-one lacs to seventy-six, or in an excess of fifteen lacs, notwithstanding the decrease of assets in various quarters, but chiefly in *Deogurh* above the *Ghauts*, of nearly three lacs of rupees, occasioned by the depredations of Pindarrees and Gonds, and the consequences of over assessments.

The short reign of *Appa Sahib*, was only distinguished by a greater degree of oppression and plunder from the country.

In consequence of these great and irregular exactions, and the ruinous war, and subsequent convulsions excited by *Appa Sahib*, much land had fallen out of cultivation, and the *Putels* and *Ryuts* were universally involved in debts and embarrassments, from which they have not yet recovered.

Present administration.

The first objects to which the attention of every superintendent was called, were to distribute the country, which had before been split into innumerable divisions, into more convenient portions; to appoint the most respectable of the revenue officers of the old Government to the situation of *Kumaishdars;* to pay them according to the size and revenue of their divisions; to put a stop to their former illicit gains; to oblige them to reside in their districts; to provide, as far as possible, for the restoration to their original purpose of the ancient officers of check and control, and to prevent that collusion between the holders of them, and the *Kumaishdars*, which cheated both the people and the state; in short, in all the offices of revenue, which were in the appointment of the Government, to introduce maxims of regularity, economy, and purity into the administration.

In

In the conduct of the assessments, the attention of all was specially directed to revert to the regular principles of the ancient system; to guarantee to the *Putels*, the just and faithful observance on the part of Government, of the engagements which might be concluded; to abolish the extra imposts, which were acknowledged to be both new and oppressive; to remit balances which appeared irrecoverable, whilst their continuance in the accounts would be a constant mill-stone round the necks of the *Putels* and *Ryuts;* to make the assessments light and moderate; to fix the payment of the instalments of the revenue, at periods advantageous to the *Ryuts*, and to provide for restoring waste lands, by *cowles* granted according to former practice, and for the resuscitation of capital in the hands of the agricultural class; to prolong the terms of leases to the extent that might appear convenient, with relation to the state and circumstances of the districts and their inhabitants.

The rights and privileges of all classes were to be ascertained and respected, and generally, in making even the changes required to restore the old system, indulgence was to be shewn to those who had been the agents of misrule, and temper and moderation to be exercised, collaterally with a firm and resolute perseverance in insuring a purity of conduct in the officers of revenue.

It was requisite to touch with a tender hand the relations between the *Putels* and *Ryuts ;* to avoid unnecessary interference, and discourage litigation ; to redress well-founded complaints, but mainly to rely on the effects of moderate demands, on the part of Government, and equitable conduct in its operations for realizing them; as well as on the consequent excitement of competition in the *Putels*, for agricultural labor, to produce a gradual amelioration in the condition of the *Ryuts*.

The

The proceedings of the different superintendents in endeavouring to attain these objects, were naturally marked with some shades of distinction, both from differences of opinion and views in the individuals, and from varieties in local circumstances and institutions. The Resident deemed it wise, in the first instance, to place almost unlimited confidence in those officers, after giving them his general instructions. Relying generally upon their zeal and prudence, he confined his interference to a watchful superintendence of their conduct, as exhibited in their reports, and to answering points of reference, until that body of facts might be accumulated, which was requisite to enable him to judge definitively, on the general plans that might be best for the country and the Government, with reference to a future transference of the administration to the *Rajah*. By degrees, he was enabled to prescribe a system of monthly and yearly accounts, which tended at once to convey to him the fullest information, and to afford the means of a more particular supervision and control over all the proceedings of the superintendents.

On assuming charge, little or no change in the establishments of the *Purgunnah* revenue officers was introduced. Their duties and emoluments may be thus generally described:

Kumaishdar.

The *Kumaishdar* is the head authority in the district, in every department. In that of revenue, it is his business to make the collections agreeably to the instalments which he receives from the superintendent's *Cutchery*, relative to each village. He furnishes to the superintendent detailed monthly accounts of his receipts and disbursements, and sends his surplus treasure either direct to the Sudder treasury, or to some of the subordinate treasuries in the districts which have been established by the superintendents, to facilitate the transmission of the revenue from a distance. After the last instalment has been collected, the *Kumaishdar* prepares

prepares his accounts, and submits the list of the sums which may be outstanding, with recommendations that they may be allowed to remain unsettled until his accounts are investigated, when orders are given to remit or realize them, according to circumstances. The *Kumaishdar* has been ordered to pay particular attention to the *Istimalut*, and to report all instances in which it does not proceed, with the causes of the delay. He ought to make himself acquainted with the circumstances of all the *Putels*, and with the state of cultivation; to see that the accounts of the *Berar Pandias* are regular and correct, and that the *Sadnook*, or general abstract of the *Lugwuns* of each village, which is to be submitted to the superintendent, when required for the purpose of making assessments, is according to the actual collections of the *Putels*. This he is to try to ascertain, by visiting all the villages personally, and by communicating with the *Ryuts*.

The pay of the *Kumaishdars* varies from eighty to one-hundred rupees a month.

Phurnaveese.

The duty of *Phurnaveese* is not altered from what it has always been. His pay, and that of his deputy, is twenty-five rupees per month. He also receives one rupee on each village, and one rupee on all orders proceeding from his office.

Berar Pandia.

As our assessments have been made with great reference to *Lugwuns*, the business of the *Berar Pandia* has been much increased. It is his duty, as soon as practicable, after all the land has been sown, to go to each village and get the *Lugwuns* from the *Putels*. He is then to assemble the *Ryuts*, and to enquire into the correctness of the *Lugwuns*. He is to use every endeavor, by communication with the *Ryuts* and village servants, to discover any false statements they may contain. After collect-

ing all the *Lugwuns* of his district, he is to send copies of them to the superintendent's *Cutchery*, and keep others for himself, from which he is to frame the *Sadnook* above mentioned.

Peshkar.

The *Peshkar* is almost entirely employed for purposes of police. Should the *Phurnaveese* be absent, he keeps his *Duftur*. He has the population returns to prepare, also the *Nirruck*, or price current, in the *Purgunnahs*, and it is his duty to report all extraordinary occurrences to the superintendent.

The *Peshkar's* was a new office, intended to form a check on the *Phurnaveese* by keeping a double set of accounts. In Captain Wilkinson's district, the *Phurnaveese* and *Peshkar* still keep alternately, the records of the revenue, and those of police and judicial proceedings.

Podar.

The duty of the *Podar* is to examine all the money received into the superintendent's treasury. He is bound to replace such rupees, bearing his mark, as prove bad, for which he receives one rupee annually, from each village in the *Purgunnah*.

Pandhree Pandia.

The *Pandhree Pandia* keeps, as formerly, the *Pandhree* and *Kullalee* accounts of the *Kusbah* to which he is attached.

Extent of interference between Ryuts and Putels.

On our taking charge of the country, all *Burguns* and *Puttees* not abolished, were included in the amount of land revenue, entered in the *Lugwuns*, and the *Kumaishdars* and *Putels* were forbidden to extort new *Burguns*, under any pretence. Those discovered in doing so, were either removed from their situations, or severely fined.

Ryuts were encouraged to complain, when any unauthorized demands were

were made, and those who complied with such demands, were told that they would be considered equally culpable with the receivers. In some instances, where such practices were discovered, the amount was taken from both parties, and added to the assessment of the land occupied by the *Kirsan*.

Putels are strictly enjoined to adhere to the agreements they make with the *Kirsans*, at the commencement of the year. Any *Putel* who is discovered in depriving the *Kirsan* of fields, for which he has engaged, is punished, and the land restored to the *Kirsan*.

Kirsans are also obliged to adhere scrupulously to their agreement with the *Putel*, and if they have taken the *Pawn*, they are made answerable for their portion of the land for the year, and must pay the assessment.

The *Putel* is entirely entrusted with the renting of the whole of his village, and he is at liberty to let the land in any way he may choose. There are frequent complaints from *Ryuts* against *Putels*, for depriving them of fields they have cultivated for many years, the *Putel* wishing either to cultivate the land himself, or to raise the rent. No interference is exercised on the part of the superintendents, unless any violation of positive agreement can be made out by the complainant. Captain Cameron says, he has always found the *Putels* ready to do their *Ryuts* justice, and their proceedings are seldom vexatious, unless with the view of getting rid of a bad or intriguing character out of their village.

Putels, to whom *Ryuts* are indebted, are permitted to place the property of the defaulters under restraint, but not to sell it without authority from the superintendent. If a *Ryut* leaves a village in debt to his *Putel*, he

he is obliged to return and settle all revenue demands, before he is allowed to become a cultivator elsewere.

Proceedings of the Superintendents.

I shall now proceed to give a sketch of the proceedings of the different officers employed, enlarging principally on *Deogurh* below the *Ghauts*.

Deogurh below the Ghauts.

This district formed part of the more general charge which was given to Captain Gordon in June 1818. In all the *Pergunnahs* there are tracts of barren and unproductive soil, more or less extensive. Some portion of the surface of each consists of pasture lands, and considerable portions which are fit for nothing else, are converted into grass preserves, or *Bheers*. Arable land predominates on the plains, the greater portion of it is tilled; many *Purgunnahs* are highly cultivated, and the general aspect of the country is that of a fruitful and well cultivated tract.

It was originally distributed into no less than one hundred and thirty *Pergunnahs*, and other denominations employing sixty *Mumlutdars*, or *Kamaishdars*, and their agents. Captain Gordon reduced the number to twenty-three, of as nearly the same size as circumstances would admit, under an equal number of native managers. The average collections of each were, at first, about sixty-five thousand rupees, though owing to the progressive increase in the revenue, it now amounts to nearly seventy-seven thousand.

The first duty which devolved on Captain Gordon was an arduous one, namely, the settlements of the general account of the collections, disbursements, and balances for the year 1227, which being at last successfully performed, he proceeded with the settlements for 1228. To effect this object, Captain Gordon's attention was naturally directed to the ascertainment of the previous year's assessment, which indeed was the

Settlements for 1228 Fusslee.

the only ground on which that of the current one could be framed. From an examination of the accounts, it appeared that the *Jumma* of land revenue for 1227, had been fixed at rupees nineteen lacs, fifty eight thousand, one hundred and forty-two, but on investigating the particulars of which this sum was made up, it was found that part of it was a mere nominal revenue.

It appears that, after the peace of *Deogaum* in 1803, a heavy additional assessment was imposed on the country, which was continued until 1808, when it was found that many of the districts had been so impoverished, that they could no longer support such heavy demands. A selection was accordingly made from the districts on which the assessment pressed with the greatest weight, and they were all transferred to *Jaghirdars*, at a reduced value, but with the same nominal assessment, whilst the remaining parts of the country, comprising the most flourishing districts, were retained in *Kumaisha* or *Khalsa*. The difference between the reduced value and the nominal assessment amounted to rupees one lac, ninety-six thousand, three hundred and twenty-five, a sum which had not been levied on these districts for the last ten years, but which had, nevertheless, been continued in the accounts of the *Phurnaveese*, as forming part of the regular assessment.

Deducting this sum from the *Jumma* of 1227, it is reduced to rupees seventeen lacs, sixty-one thousand, eight hundred and seventeen; and as it was found that lands had been thrown out of cultivation during the year 1227, yielding a rent of rupees fifty-nine thousand, one hundred and fifteen, a still further reduction became necessary, whereby the *Jumma* was diminished to rupees seventeen lacs, two thousand, seven hundred and two, at which sum the assessment for 1228 was fixed.

The effects of the war, and heavy rains which nearly destroyed the *Khurreef* crops, and produced a famine, rendered it impracticable to collect the whole of the assessment of which only rupees fifteen lacs, ninety-seven thousand, three hundred and thirty-two was realized, the balance, amounting to rupees one lac, five thousand, three hundred and ninety, being remitted.

1229. The same adverse causes led to even worse results in 1229, for although the assessment was fixed as low as rupees fifteen lacs, fifteen thousand, nine hundred and sixty-seven, it was found indispensable to grant remissions to the amount of rupees sixteen thousand, nine hundred and eighty, reducing the actual collections of the year to rupees fourteen lacs, ninety-eight thousand, nine hundred and eighty-seven.

Settlements of 1230, 1231, and 1232. The expediency of concluding the next settlement for a longer term than one year, had been rendered obvious by the information acquired of the state of the different *Pergunnahs;* it was much desired by the *Putels*, and seemed the best means of restoring the country from the effects of past mismanagement and misfortune, as well as of establishing confidence every where in the stability of the existing order of things. The Resident, accordingly, sanctioned the granting of leases for three years, including, in some cases, 1229, 1230, and 1231, *Fusslee*, but generally 1230, 1231, and 1232.

To give a general idea of the capabilities of the country, preliminary enquiries were made in every *Pergunnah* by Captain Gordon. The accounts of the assessments and collections were first examined. The *Burguns* lately imposed were ascertained, and their effect on the cultivation of the district considered.

The

The accounts of 1228 were then investigated, and the balances remaining due, with the causes of them, were ascertained. The *Lugwuns* for 1229 were also examined, and as they were supposed to exhibit a tolerably accurate view of the state of the cultivation, and consequently of what the district, in its actual condition, could afford to pay, the assessment was regulated to a considerable extent, with reference to the *Jumma* exhibited in these accounts.

Two modes of Settlement.

The settlement itself was conducted in two ways: according to one mode, the gross assessment of the whole *Pergunnah* was settled with the *Putels*, and the details adjusted afterwards. The other mode was to make the settlement with the *Putels* individually, for each village, without previously fixing the *Pergunnah* rate. Out of twenty-three *Pergunnahs*, fifteen were settled according to the first, and eight according to the second process.

First mode.

The first mode was much more expeditious than the second, and a threat of measurement and strict examination of the state of the lands, generally produced an early assent on the part of the *Putels* to the terms offered. After the *Pergunnah* assessment had been agreed to by all the *Putels* assembled together, the appointment of it on the villager was adjusted in the presence of the superintendent, by the revenue officers of the *Pergunnah*, assisted by the principal *Putels*, and under the superintendance of the *Kuchery* servants.

After the amount of the rent, which each *Putel* was to pay during the lease, had been agreed on, he delivered to the superintendent a *Kabooleeat* in writing, as an acknowledgement of such consent, and in return received a *Cowle Nemah*, specifying the terms of the lease for each year, and all further particulars. He also received a *Wuccdabundee Chittee*, signed

signed by the superintendent, specifying the amount of instalments for each month of the first year, and the periods of payment.

In the *Berar Pergunnahs*, which were *Do Umulee*, or jointly administered by the *Nizam's* and *Bhoosla's* officers, where there are *Zemindars*, the settlement was made through them with the *Putels*, in the manner described above, with this difference only, that the *Zemindars* agreed for certain sums for the whole district, instead of the *Putels*. This mode was conformable with the former practice, and could not have been deviated from, as the revenue records of these *Pergunnahs* are in the hands of the *Zemindars*, the office of village *Pandia* is usually held by them or their connexions, and there is no establishment of *Berar Pandias*, or regular system of village accounts.

In the other *Pergunnahs*, formerly subject to the *Nizam*, but which have been long held by the *Mahrattas*, in which there are also *Zemindars*, the system of *Berar Pandias*, and village accounts, had been introduced, and the services of the *Zemindars* were not so exclusively employed in the assessments as in the *Do Umulee Pergunnahs*. The details were, however, generally left to them, when their services were found useful, but when they were accused by the *Putels* of gross partiality, their influence was dispensed with altogether.

Second mode. The second mode of separate settlements with each village was much more tedious than the other process, and the superintendent could not get through more than twelve villages in the course of a day.

The accounts of each village were not only inspected for 1228 and 1229, but as far back as they could be traced, and the statements of the *Putels* were compared with other sources of information when it could be had.

Before

Before agreements were concluded, persons were frequently sent to look at the villages, to number the *Pur*, or fallow fields, to compare the quantity of land in cultivation for both years, and to bring back written statements of the *Lugwuns* as given by the *Ryuts* themselves. Captain Gordon also visited many villages himself, and tried to ascertain from the *Ryuts* what they had engaged to pay to the *Putels*. In some cases, measurements were had recourse to, when the lands were supposed to be much under assessed, and as a last resource, when the *Putel* would not consent to pay what was considered a just rate, the villages were either offered to others, or kept under *Khas* management, until a new *Putel* could be found.

When every thing was adjusted, *Kowle Namas*, &c. were given to the *Putels*, as specified in the first mode of adjustment, which concluded the business.

No limitations were placed on the *Putels*, with regard to the rates of assessment they were to demand from the *Ryuts*. They were recommended to be moderate in their demands, as the best mode of securing the cultivations of their lands.

Settlement of Sewaee, Jumma, Kullalee, Pandhree, &c.

In the settlements made with each *Putel*, were included the *Outbundee*, or tax on ploughs, of four rupees each, the *Cootwallee*, *Pandhree*, *Zemindaree*, and all the other petty dues and cesses of their respective villages. The Government had no demands on the *Putels*, beyond what was specified in the *Kowle Namas*.

The only items of extra revenue for which no specific engagements were concluded, were the *Siwaee Jumma*, and *Kullalee* of the *Kesbahs* and

*Palasootee**

*Palasootee** villages. These two branches have always been kept *Khas.*

Khasgee, Mookara, and Palasootee villages.

The *Khasgee* villages were formerly under separate management, and supplied by the *Rajah* with seed-grain, &c. In the end of 1228, they were incorporated with the *Pergunnahs,* and placed under the control of the *Kumaishdars,* who were ordered to supply them with grain from the Government stores. In consequence of the failure of the crops, and the necessity of distributing some portion of the Government grain amongst the other villages, many of the *Khasgee* ones could not be supplied. Much land was, in consequence, left uncultivated, and the *Ryuts* quitted them and settled where there were *Putels.*

The *Mookarh* villages were held by military chiefs, ministers, &c. Many of the former fled after the war, plundering their villages when quitting the country; and as it was neither practicable to get new *Putels* for them, nor to furnish the *Ryuts* with seed-grain, much land fell out of cultivation,

The *Palasootee* villages had, in many cases, been without *Putels* for years, having been thrown up at different times by the former occupants, from the pressure of assessment and other causes.

The total number of all these villages was four hundred and nineteen. *Putels* were provided for three hundred and ten of them. The old *Putels* were invariably preferred, when they were men of substance, but not otherwise, as the state of the villages required that the *Putels* should be able to assist the *Ryuts.* Most of the remainder have since been taken.

In

* The *Palasootee* are those villages which have no *Putels.*

In some instances, where districts and villages were in a very bad state, the leases were extended to four years. Deserted villages were let for terms of five and six years.

Comparative effects of the different modes of settlement.

The result of the different modes of assessment above described, has been, that the *Pergunnahs* settled by the superintendent, without any communication with the chief *Putels*, or *Zemindars*, invariably improved more than those in which they were allowed to interfere. All their influence had been exerted to reduce the assessment of their own villages and those of their friends, and to throw as much of the burthen as possible on those with whom they were not connected. The consequence was, that from the unequal pressure of the assessment, and the fall in the price of grain, which took place shortly after the conclusion of the leases, many of the *Puttundar Putels* in the *Berar Pergunnahs*, were obliged to give up their villages. As the *Zemindars* were answerable for the settlements concluded in this way, the deficiency was made up as far as possible from their *Roosoom ;* but before the expiration of the leases in 1232, many of them had suffered so much, that it became necessary to grant some remissions. This was not the consequence of general over assessment, but of the endeavors of the *Zemindars* to make up the sum required, and to hold their own lands at a reduced rate, which Captain Cameron, who acted for Captain Gordon at that time, asserts, could have been effected, had the price of produce continued as high as at the time when the settlements were made.

The share of the *Putels* was not then restored to them, to near the amount they claimed, for two reasons: first, because they had great opportunities to make money by bringing new lands into cultivation, on which they had nothing to pay for three years; secondly, because all their *Lugwuns* were, without doubt, in their favour; since that period, great attention

attention has been paid to the *Lugwuns*, and the information given by the *Berar Pandias* is more to be depended on, although by no means deemed correct.

Settlements of 1233 and 1234.

The settlements for 1233 and 1234, were annual in most cases ; the continued fall in the prices of produce rendering it inexpedient to grant leases for longer periods. The term, however, was extended to three years in some particular instances. Leases for one and two years have since been sanctioned for those *Pergunnahs*, (the greater number of the whole) the settlements of which expired at the end of 1234.

The village settlements have been made by Captain Cameron entirely on the *Lugwuns*, compared with the payments of former years; but the full amount of their *Huk*, or share, has not yet been granted to the *Putels*. In all cases where the rents were raised, from twelve to eighteen per cent. was allowed to them; but where diminution took place, the same indulgence was not given, as there were almost invariably lands which had fallen out of cultivation during the years of the preceding leases, which might again be brought to account. Where reductions have been made, the villages have been generally let to the *Putels*, at a corresponding low rate for two, three, or four years, and all the land which they might bring into cultivation during that time, is exempt from any demand by Government. The account of it is, however, annually inserted in the *Lugwuns*. The system of *Istarah*, or annually increasing *Jumma*, appears to Captain Cameron, and I concur with him in the opinion, to check the industry of the *Putel*. In villages which, on a renewal of lease, shewed the same amount of *Lugwun*, as for the former year, the *Putels*, if they were entirely cultivated, were allowed from twelve to fifteen per cent., but not so much when there remained any waste land which might be brought into cultivation.

Captain

Captain Cameron considers measurement, and the classification of the lands by the *Ryuts* of the village, as the best means of ascertaining the value of lands. He has no doubt, that an assessment formed on such ground, would raise the revenue very much ; but it would be unpopular. The enquiries which he has yet made, could only extend to the actual receipts, the seed sown, the description of land, and the number of ploughs. But these points are difficult to be ascertained in a satisfactory manner ; and even if ascertained, their results could not be relied on as the groundwork of assessments, though such data as are attainable, may be useful in a general way. Low rents, he conceives, do more to advance the population and cultivation of an unsettled district, than any other measure ; but the low assessment must be secured to the *Ryuts*, and not given either to *Zemindars* or *Putels*.

Statements of the general results of the present administration in *Deogurh*.

The following statements may prove interesting, and, in some measure, shew the effect of our administration on this district:

The number of towns and villages inhabited and deserted, were,

In 1229, Towns inhabited,	64
Villages, ditto,	1826
Ditto, *Reeth*,	1791
Ditto, deserted,	322
Total,	4003

In 1235, there were Towns inhabited,	64
Villages, ditto,	2011
Ditto, *Reeth*,	1690
Ditto, deserted,	236
Total,	4001*

* Four villages were transferred in 1823, to the *Wyne Gunga* district, and two received from it.

The *Reeth* villages are those which have been formerly inhabited, though now deserted; but as their lands are cultivated by *Paeekar Kirsans*, a distinction is made in the records between them and the *Weeranee* villages. They are generally found in the best parts of the country, and have been abandoned from various causes.

The *Weeranee* villages are almost all situated in the jungles.

From the *Berar Pandia's* annual accounts, it appears that the number of fields in cultivation were, in

1222,	86,927
1230,	92,684
1231,	99,276
1232,	101,329
1233,	102,981
1234,	109,588

None of the *Pergunnahs* were so well cultivated when we took charge of the country, as they had been some years before. The records of all the *Pergunnahs* shew, that the lands of many villages which were waste, or nearly so in 1229, were formerly tilled, and the causes of their decay can always be traced. On the other hand, cultivation has been since rapidly spreading in every quarter. Captains Gordon and Cameron assert this from personal knowledge. This fact is also clearly shewn in the village accounts; and my own observations, in the frequent tours I have made through the country, satisfy me that it is the case.

In order to compare the amount of land revenue which has been drawn from this district, during the time it has been under our management, with what was realized for the ten previous years by the Marhattas, the

the average of collections during the latter period has been taken, and it amounts, after making a deduction on account of the over-valued *Jagheers*, to sixteen lacs, nine thousand and fifty-four rupees.

We collected,

*In 1228,.....14,96,134
1229,.....13,99,788
1230,.....14,94,372
1231,.....15,74,501
1232,.....16,29,534
1233,.....16,22,066
1234,.....16,24,418
1235,.....16,46,607

In the following table is exhibited, in one view, the number of fields in cultivation, the amount of revenue realized, and the average prices of the two principal articles of produce for the last six years.

Year.	Number of Fields in Cultivation.	Revenue Realized.	Price of Grain per Khandee.						Remarks.
			Wheat.			Juwaree.			
1229	86,927	13,99,788	20	3	4	16	1	4	
1230	92,684	14,94,372	11	0	0	10	0	0	
1231	99,276	15,74,501	9	11	9	6	13	0	
1232	1,01,329	16,29,534	7	11	10	6	0	0	
1233	1,02,981	16,22,066	7	14	0	7	7	11	
1234	1,09,588	16,24,418	7	3	9	4	1	6	
1235		16,46,607	3	14	6	2	9	0	*Somewhat too low.

The area of this district cannot be correctly estimated, as it has not *Wyne Gunga* district.

* Several *Talooks* belonging to *Deogurh*, as well as the *Do Umulee* districts, obtained from the *Nizam's* Government, are not included in this statement; they being also omitted in the amount of the average collections for the ten previous years.

yet

yet been surveyed. A large portion of it, particularly near the hills, is occupied by petty *Zemindars*. In the *Khalsah* part, the plain country to the east of the *Wyne Gunga* is, throughout, cultivated, with the exception of such portions of land as it is necessary to keep as pasturage. In some of the *Pergunnahs* to the west, there are extensive plains waste, from the oppressions and exactions in the latter part of *Rughojee's* reign.

The country is now subdivided into thirteen *Pergunnahs*, with the same establishment as in *Deogurh*.

It would appear, from ancient records and traces of old towns, forts, villages, and tanks, to be met with in the jungles, that the country was formerly much more populous than at the present day. At what period, and from what causes it fell into the impoverished state in which it was found by the Marhattas, is unknown; but in the circumstance of its being parcelled out at that time, amongst a number of petty *Gond Zemindars*, of wild and irregular habits, and constantly engaged in hostilities with each other, or in rebellion against their nominal chiefs, whether of *Mundillah*, *Deogurh*, or *Chanda*, we perceive an effectual obstacle to all improvement, and a sufficient cause for the existence and continuance of anarchy and confusion.

Under the sway of the *Bhonslas*, the country is said much to have improved, and to have received a great increase of population. The *Gond Zemindars* were generally expelled from the plains, to make way for more industrious inhabitants, and a more settled administration. *Rughojee Kerandia*, who was one of the most successful of the military leaders, in the early days of the *Bhonsla* government, became equally celebrated as a revenue manager in those districts, where he is still remembered as the father of the people entrusted to his care. In *Janojee's* and *Moodhojee's*

hojee's reign, there are no complaints of oppression, but the latter days of the history of this part of the country were not more exempt than those of other quarters, from the rapacity of *Rughojee* and his successor.

In the system of general revenue, management, and village assessment, under the Mahrattas, the *Wyne Gunga* districts offer no points of difference from what has been above described; and the proceedings of Captain Wilkinson, who obtained charge of them in 1229, were exactly similar to those of Captain Gordon. He concluded a triennial village settlement for the years 1230, 1231 and 1232, the amount in each case being regulated by the former assessments, together with whatever information could be drawn from other available sources.

During the continuance of these leases, Captain Wilkinson exerted himself to ascertain the total amount of revenue in each village, that had been paid by the *Ryuts* to the *Putels*, and the value of lands held by the latter, whether as *Ramut*, or land in the hands of the *Putel*, as a cultivator, and subject to its full share of assessment; or as *Chukbundee*, which implies rent-free land, in lieu of the money share, and upon the information then obtained, he re-settled all the *Pergunnahs* for one, two, or three years, previously to the expiration of the triennial settlement.

By the terms of these settlements, the profits arising from bringing waste land into cultivation, went to the *Putels;* whilst on the other hand, the losses accruing from fields remaining unoccupied, were to be made good by him; he was prohibited from making any demands over and above the amount at which each field was rated in the *Lugwun*, without obtaining the sanction of the *Pergunnah* authorities, and all the *Ryuts* were informed of the orders issued on this point. The allowance granted to the *Putels* was thirteen per cent. on the collections of every village

yielding rupees eight hundred and upwards, and fifteen per cent. on those, whose assessment fell short of that sum, together with an allowance varying from fifteen to twenty-five rupees, for village expenses. Where the *Putel's* share was in land, the quantity was estimated by the quantity of seed required to sow it.

The number of villages respectively, *Reeth*, *Wyran*, and inhabited, were,

	Reeth.	*Wyran.*	*Inhabited.*
In 1229,	334	485	2076
1235,	315	471	2111*

The average amount of land revenue, collected for ten years previous to our assuming charge, may be stated at eight lacs, twenty six thousand and sixty rupees.

Our collections have been,

In 1228,	7,10,435
1229,	7,26,905
1230,	7,48,592
1231,	7,60,121
1232,	7,72,907
1233,	7,85,343
1234,	7,56,333

Chanda.

Chanda, like the *Wyne Gunga* district, may be ranged into two divisions. First, *Chanda* proper, including only the *Khalsa* portion; and secondly, the *Zemindarees*. The first division alone will be considered here.

* Two additional villages received from *Chanda*.

The

The extreme length of *Chanda* proper, is estimated by Captain Crawfurd, on what he considers good data, to be eighty geographical miles from north to south, and sixty-five from east to west, and the district to contain three thousand, three hundred and eighty geographical square miles, and it is now divided into ten *Pergunnahs*.

Before the Marhatta war of 1803, the country was in a flourishing state. The trade with the Coast was a considerable source of revenue. Great quantities of salt and cocoa-nuts were imported, and cotton exported. Coarse cloths, called *Rhadee*, were sent in great quantities to *Berar*, and found their way even to Bombay and Arabia. In 1212 or 1802-3, Captain Crawfurd believes the population of the district to have been double what it now is, and as for its trade, it is stated to be very low at present. In 1213, the town of *Chanda* had five thousand houses, in 1218, four thousand two hundred, and in 1232, only two thousand eight hundred.

Since 1226, the following ev 1227, the town of *Chanda*, and its *Pets*, or suburbs, were sacked, and the whole of the cattle of the circumjacent villages were swept away. This was followed by the rebellion of the *Gond Zemindars*, in putting down which Captain Crawfurd's exertions were particularly active and successful; but in the mean time, the country suffered much from their depredations. Famine and cholera raged one year, and in 1232 and 1233, immense numbers of the cattle were carried off by disease.

The revenue system of *Chanda* has already been described as that of *Deogurh*; and Captain Crawfurd made the settlements for the years 1228 and 1229, in the same manner, and on the same grounds, as the superintendent of *Deogurh*, as well as the triennial settlements for 1230, 1231 and 1232.

1232. Up to this period, the collections had been on the advance, but on the expiration of the three years' leases, acting on a misconception of the authority vested in him, and conceiving that, from enquiries instituted regarding the productive powers of the lands, he had procured data sufficient to enable him to conclude an assessment on grounds somewhat different from, and preferable to those hitherto adopted, Captain Crawfurd proceeded to make settlements for five years in the different *Pergunnahs* of his division, the result of which was a considerable decrease in the amount of the land revenue. On receiving a detail of the measures adopted, and an explanation of the views and principles by which the superintendent was guided, the Resident could not give his unqualified approbation to the proceeding. Much of the information pointed out as necessary by Captain Crawfurd, was, no doubt, of essential assistance to him in concluding the settlements, but probably not sufficient to form the basis of new ones. It was, besides, most difficult to obtain satisfactory proof of the correctness of the details upon which the changes were grounded, and it required much time to apply them with care to every village of the district. The Resident was prevented, however, from revising the settlements, in consequence of the faith of Government having been pledged to their observance.

The allowance granted to the *Putels*, by Captain Crawfurd, was fifteen per cent. on all villages yielding above seven hundred rupees, and thirteen per cent. on those paying a smaller sum. An allowance enjoyed by the village *Pandiahs* was done away with, as unnecessary, but it will, probably, be again restored to them.

The average of collections from this district, for ten years previous to our assuming charge, was nearly three lacs, ninety one thousand, one hundred and four rupees.

We

We collected,

In 1228,	2,33,037
1229,	2,96,943
1230,	3,69,574
1231,	3,97,776
1232,	4,06,139
1233,	3,63,898
1234,	3,67,391

The number of villages respectively, *Reeth*, *Wyran* and inhabited, was,

	Wyran.	*Reeth.*	*Inhabited.*
In 1229,	285	356	1213
1235,	275	356	1223

Deogurh above the Ghauts.

These districts, when they came under our charge, had suffered equally with the rest of the *Rajah's* territories, from the ruinous system of the last RUGHOJEE, as well as more severely than the others, from the ravages of the *Gonds*, particularly during APPA SAHIB's residence amongst them.

The effects of the recent low prices of produce, too, have been even more felt in this division than elsewhere, owing to the general poverty of the *Putels*, and the revenue management is much influenced by that adopted in the Company's acquired districts, which embrace it on three sides. Still it may be said that every thing has been done that was practicable to improve the revenue; and the foundation at least, has been securely laid for future increase.

The Revenue system of this part of the country, is exactly the same

as in *Deogurh* below the *Ghauts;* and no innovations have been introduced. Yearly settlements were made in the years 1228 and 1229, and triennial leases granted for 1230, 1231, and 1232. Since the expiration of which, the settlements have been made for one or two years.

The average collection of the ten years previous to our taking charge, may be stated at three hundred and fifty-nine thousand, six hundred and two rupees.

Our collections have been,

In 1228,	1,51,276
1229,	1,63,569
1230,	1,86,688
1231,	2,20,089
1232,	2,41,073
1233,	2,52,172
1234,	2,58,221

There were villages,

	Wyran.	*Reeth.*	*Inhabited.*
In 1229,	1339	235	600
1235,	626	307	1241

Chuttees ghur.

The revenue of *Chuttees gurh* was long under distinct management, as the appanage, successively, of BIMBAJEE, MOODHOJEE, VENKOJEE, and APPAH SAHIB. Its extent may be computed, exclusive of the distant dependencies of *Burtar* and *Kuronde*, at two hundred and sixty miles in length, and one hundred and sixty in breadth. The *Khalsa* lands are situated in the centre, and on every side are surrounded by tributary *Zemindarees*. The proportion of the *Khalsa* to the *Zemindaree* lands is not known; the former, however, besides being the most open, are also the

the best cultivated, it being supposed that of the *Khalsa* plains, nearly one-half, whilst in the *Zemindarees*, with the exception of *Kurrurdah* and *Punduriah*, not more than one-fourth is under tillage.

The *Khalsa* lands, which were distributed formerly into twenty-seven divisions, were formed into nine *Pergunnahs* by Colonel Agnew.

Of the ancient history and condition of *Chuttees gurh*, little is known. It is probable, however, that it once was in a more flourishing state than it has been for many years past. From an old *Deshwace*, or list of villages, found at *Ruttunpore*, it appears that the number of villages was much greater formerly than it now is, and the ruins of *Sirpoor*, on the right bank of the *Mahanuddee*, twenty miles north of *Asing*, said to have been the capital of a very ancient Hindoo dynasty; of *Byram Deo*, in *Kuwurdah;* and of numerous temples and buildings scattered generally over the country, indicate an amount of population, and a degree of prosperity which have long ceased to exist.

The province was, for ages, under the sway of a family of *Ashwaputtee*, or *Hyhybunsee* princes; and although one of them, called *Kullian Sing*, is said to have been seized and carried off to *Dehli* by the imperial army, which entered the country in pursuit of DURGA WUTTEE, the *Ranee* of **Gurha Kultungee*, and was obliged to become tributary to the Emperor, still, until finally conquered by the Marhattas, the country seems to have been long exempt from foreign control, and its original institutions to have remained unchanged and untouched by the hands of strangers. From every information it has been practicable to obtain, it appears, however, that under this dynasty, the feudal principles of its rule precluded a regular

* Near *Jubbulpore*.

regular system of revenue; the greater part of the Government lands having been apportioned amongst the different members of the reigning family, and the officers, civil and military, of the state, who again partitioned them amongst their immediate dependents. In such a state of things, any uniform plan could not well exist, and it was not until the Marhattas had established their authority, that the introduction of any thing like a general system took place. But this was not accomplished on their first settlement in the country; for although attempts to introduce order were first made, as early as the arrival of BIMBAJEE, in 1758, it was not until 1790, that VITUL DEUKUR, then *Soobahdar* of the province, succeeded in reducing affairs into a state of uniformity and regularity, and even the changes effected by him, did not extend farther than establishing a more regular mode of keeping the revenue accounts of the *Pergunnahs;* no alteration having taken place in the manner of assessing the lands, nor any measures being devised to regulate and record the agreements made between the *Putels* and cultivators.

Throughout this province there are no *Wuttundars*, either *Ryuts* or *Putels*, and the inhabitants seem to be less attached to the soil, and more migratory than is commonly the case in most other parts of India.

The village establishments are somewhat less complete than in the other parts of the country: there are but few village accountants, or carpenters; and *Ooprobits*, or religious Bramins; together with a set of Mahratta Brahmin astrologers, brought into the country by BIMBAJEE, supply the place of the *Joshees* and *Garpugaries*.

The village officers universally established, are the *Gowteeah*, or head man, two *Tehloos*, the *Nigh*, or barber, the *Ghyra*, or cowherd, the *Dhobee*, the *Lohar*, and *Chumar*.

The

The duties of the *Gowteeah* exactly correspond with those of the *Putel* in other parts. His emoluments are one plough of land, rent-free, out of every eight paying revenue to Government, with an allowance for village expenses of one in every sixteen, which is sown with his own seed, but tilled by the *Ryuts* generally. He has besides, some trifling dues on the sale of the produce of his village.

Of the *Tehloos*, one is of the *Ganduh*, the other of the *Chowan* caste. Their joint duties are to go the errands of the *Gowteeah*; to report offences, and the arrivals and departures of travellers; to dun the *Ryuts* for their rents, and to keep prisoners in custody. To supply the wants of travellers, is the more immediate business of the *Ganduh*, whilst the guarding of the village is that of the *Chowan*. Their remuneration in amount, as well as in the mode of making it, varies greatly; almost every village having its peculiar customs.

The *Nigh*, or barber, owes professional services to all the village community, but is chiefly employed by the *Gowteeah*, from whom he usually receives a greater annual allowance of grain, than from the other *Ryuts*.

The cowherd is, in a great measure, the servant of the *Gowteeah*; whenever he moves, he accompanies him, carries his baggage, cleans his brass vessels, and brings him water. The *Dhobee*, besides washing clothes, cuts and brings fire-wood. The *Lohar* makes and repairs the iron parts of the implements of husbandry, and the *Chumar* furnishes thongs for the ploughs, and mends the bags used in raising water. They all are paid in grain or money, agreeably to the village usage.

Besides these, the Marhattas introduced a set of middle men, denominated *Putels*, generally needy Marhatta Bramins, who were superiors of

small *Talooks*, and *Gowteeahs* of the villages where they resided. They were allowed six and a half per cent. on their payments to the Government.

From the death of BIMBAJEE BHOUSLAH, in 1787, *Chutteesgurh* was governed by *Soobahdars*, deputed by the prince holding the appanage. The revenue servants were, in the province, the *Soobahdar*, the *Furnaveese*, and sometimes an under *Furnaveese*, called *Puttee*; and in the *Pergunnahs*, a *Kumaishdar* and *Furnaveese*, with an establishment of subordinate officers denominated *Boodkurs*, whose duty was to convey to the *Kumaishdar's* information, respecting the extent of land in cultivation, the state of the crops, and on all matters connected with the revenue, which they also collected under instructions from the *Kumaishdar*.

The lands have never been measured, and the assessment is on the plough, the rates being from four to seventeen and a half rupees, agreeably to the quantity and quality of the land, but not according to any determinate rules, nor were the rates permanently the same, but varying as the village assessment. The appointment of the assessment was altogether left to *Gowteeahs* and *Ryuts*, of whose engagements no records could be kept from the want of village registers. The *Pergunnah* assessment was apportioned on the different villages composing it, by the *Kumaishdar*, guided by former practice, and the information he could obtain respecting the actual state of the villages. The whole demand on the province was made in conformity with instructions from Nagpore, and the apportionment of it regulated by former years' collections.

The following account of the mode of proceeding in the collection of the revenue, followed by the Marhatta officers, is from Colonel Agnew's report.

"If

"If the *Ryuts* of each village, as they usually did, complained to the *Putel*, or *Gowteeah*, that the existing distribution of lands was unfair, he assembled them, and a new division, which satisfied all parties, took place. If also any stated, that they required aid in money, seed, or cattle, the *Putel*, or *Gowteeah*, aided them if he had the means, or if he had not, became their security with some *Sowkar;* but for these purposes, there was no particular day, nor were the *Ryuts* collected at all, unless on their own application.

"After the seed was sown (in the end of July, or beginning of August,) *Kumaishdars* recommenced their *Tuckaza* for any balances, on account of the preceding year, remaining due to the Government.

"In the end of August, the *Soobahdar* of the district dispatched *Takeeds* to *Kumaishdars* of *Pergunnahs*, directing them to collect one-third of the annual revenue, according to the assessment of the last year, and to remit the amount to the public treasury before the 5th *Aswin*, (October.) On receipt of these orders, the *Kumaishdars* immediately despatched *Chittees* to each *Putel*, or *Gowteeah*, directing them to repair to the *Kusba*, for the purpose of settling the *Sall*, or annual assessment, and to bring with them the instalment then due.

"The *Putels* and *Gowteeahs*, complying with these directions, assembled at the *Kusba*. If the *Kumaishdar* thought a village could pay more than it had done the preceding year, he demanded about double the increase he expected, and after a good deal of discussion, concluded an agreement with the *Gowteeah*, or *Putel*, for the current year, taking from the latter what was called a *Wydub Poorjah*, or bond, in which the amount of assessment agreed upon, was particularized, and an engagement entered into for its payment before the expiration of the year, in certain *Kists*, or instalments.

instalments. It also contained an agreement, to pay such a further sum as the *Soobahdar*, or the *Sircar*, might impose on the country generally. Ten or twelve days were then demanded, and allowed for collecting and paying the *Kist* already due, after which the *Putels* and *Gowteeahs* returned to their villages. On these occasions, and whilst discussing the amount of assessment, they made various representations, such as that their lands had fallen out of cultivation from epidemics amongst the *Ryuts*, or their cattle; that the season had been bad; that disturbances had prevented the labors of the field, &c. Of these the *Kumaishdars*, who were most attentive to their duty, took notes, which, in some cases, they made the *Gowteeahs* sign.

"Thus one-third of the revenue, corresponding, generally, in the total amount from each *Pergunnah*, but not in the assessment on each village with the last year, was collected and paid into the treasury before the *Dusserah*, (September or October.) If any remained due by the *Pergunnah* at that festival, the *Soobahdar* wrote letters urging its immediate payment, and if they were not attended to, he gave a *Berrat*, or order, on the *Kumaishdar*, to some troops or others who exacted payment.

"The second instalment, also of one-third, was collected by precisely a similar process, except that *Kumaishdars* sent the revenue *Peons* under their authority, who are in most parts of this province called *Boodkurs*, sometimes with chits, sometimes without, to receive the amount from each *Putel*, or *Gowteeah*, and did not summon them to the *Kusba;* the 5th of *Poose*, (January,) being the date within which it was to be paid into the treasury.

"Between the collection of these two *Kists*, the most active and zealous of the *Kumaishdars* made a tour of their *Pergunnahs*, in order that they

they might be prepared on the coming of the *Soobahdar*, to give him the fullest information, particularly as to the truth or otherwise of the various representations made to them by *Putels* and *Gowteeahs*, of which in settling the *Sall*, they had taken notes, and had allowed to influence them in reducing or increasing that, so as to fall short of or exceed the assessment of the past year.

"At the sowing of the *Rubbee* crops in October and November, as at the *Khurreef*, the *Putel*, or *Gowteeah*, of each village aided his *Ryuts* with seed and advances of money; but no new distribution of the lands took place.

"The third instalment, or the remaining third was payable on the 5th of *Chyte* (or April,) and was collected in the same manner as the second.

The *Soobahdar* having received the second instalment of the revenue, commenced his tour generally about the end of January. He previously apprized the *Kumaishdars* of his approach, and directed them to assemble all the *Putels* and *Gowteeahs*. He visited each *Kusbah*, where he remained about three or four days, seldom making any tour of the *Purgunnah*. On arriving, he called upon the *Kumaishdars* and *Furnaveeses*, for the *Kutcha* accounts of the collections made in the last year, and having received them, he heard, in public *Kutchery*, all that the *Putels*, *Gowteeahs*, or *Ryuts* might wish to state. From their representations, from the report of the *Kumaishdar*, from his own public and secret inquiries, and adverting to the orders he had received from Nagpore, he determined whether to confirm or to alter (which he was understood to have the power of doing) the *Sall* settled by the *Kumaishdar*. When an increase was thought necessary, as was generally the case, that was

enforced more by the weight of the *Soobahdar*, than by any compulsory measures, and was seldom carried into effect, without the consent, although perhaps yielded reluctantly, of the *Putels* and *Gowteeahs*. If any particular *Gowteeah*, however, would not come into the general arrangement, and complained of the sum at which his village was assessed, the *Soobahdar* instituted an enquiry, which enabled him to compare the payments it had made in the past year, with those made by the neighbouring villages; he then ascertained their relative states, and decided upon the representation by the result. If that was not satisfactory to the complainant, the village was offered to another, and where a candidate stood forward, which was generally pre-arranged under hand, the objection was either withdrawn, as was commonly the case, or the *Gowteeah* was changed.

"The accounts of the *Pandry*, or tax upon those classes who are not cultivators, and of the *Koot* or *Tool* collected on cattle loaded with grain or merchandize, were examined in a general way, and the receipts on account of *Seewaee* (fine, &c. &c.) were particularly enquired into, from the date of the *Soobahdar's* last tour. This latter being a branch of revenue in which impositions were frequent, persons were encouraged, by agents of the *Soobahdar*, to come forward and state the payments they had made, that it might appear whether the whole amount, deducting certain allowed fees to the revenue servants, had been credited to the public. Finally, the *Bakee* account, or arrears of former years, was examined. The *Kumaishdar's* expenditure was also looked into, and cautions given him, but its final settlement was referred to the end of the year.

"Thus the *Bakee* account, and whole assessment of the current year was finally fixed, and a copy of the *Terrow*, or settlement, entered on the *Dufturs*, was taken by the *Furnaveese* of the *Pergunnah*. In it was stated the

the *Bakee* from the last year, the total revenue for the current year, the instalments in which it was to be paid, the expenses allowed for the *Mull Mus Koor*, the deduction for *Mookussa* villages, *Dermadao*, *Devestan*, and *Naimnooks*, the amount which had already been paid to the *Sirkar*, and the ballance that would remain due. For this latter sum, the *Kumaishdar's* receipt, payable within a limited time, was taken.

"The complaints of the *Ryuts* against *Putels* and *Gowteeahs*, were also attended to by the *Soobahdar;* but what the latter might have improperly collected, was appropriated by the Government, and was not returned to the aggrieved parties. Complaints of oppression, and on all other points were, likewise, heard, investigated, and redressed, to the extent which accorded with the views and habits of the *Soobahdar*.

"All these matters having been gone through, the *Soobahdar* addressed the cultivators and others assembled in the *Kutchery*, in terms of encouragement, telling the former the amount at which the whole *Pergunnah* had been assessed, for it does not appear to have ever been the practice to inform each *Putel*, or *Gowteeah*, of the exact sum his village was to pay, although he might, by attending the *Kutchery*, pick up that information. He then dismissed them, sometimes giving them all *Paun*; at others, that form was omitted; but to the head *Putels* and *Gowteeahs*, he always gave cloths, informing the rest that a remission of one and seven-eighths per cent. on the *Aeen Ank*, (about two-fifths of the whole revenue,) would be granted them in lieu of *Sirpows*, as this annual present of cloths is here termed.

"Thus the *Soobahdar* completed his tour in eight or ten weeks; when he commenced to close the annual accounts, and to prepare those to be sent to Nagpore. He also took similar measures to those before described, for realizing the last *Kist*. "On

"On the expiration of the *Fussily* year, in June, he sent off *Tukeeds* to call the *Furnaveeses* of *Pergunnahs*, with the accounts of the year. On their arrival, they were compared with the accounts of the *Soobah Murkoor*, differences explained and reconciled, the expenditure of *Kumaishdars* finally examined, and their receipts required, payable in a certain time, or an order given upon them for all sums not admitted, as well as for any balance of revenue remaining due, unless they had applied for an extension of time in favor of certain individuals, whom particular circumstances prevented from immediately liquidating the demands against them, and could state that they were in possession of their receipts for the amount; in which cases, from one to three months was granted for the recovery of such sums."

The revenue of the province seems to have been on the increase from the time it first came into the hands of the Marhattas, but during the latter years of the life of VENKAJEE BHOUSLAH, and the time of APPAH SAHIB, who succeeded to the appanage, on the death of his father in 1222 *Fusslee*, exaction was carried to a most unprincipled and ruinous extent. In the course of eighteen years, from 1209 to 1227 *Fusslee*, the assessment was raised from one lac and twenty-six thousand, to three lacs and eighty-three thousand rupees. The system of imposing *Puttees* was carried to the utmost limit, and Colonel Agnew describes the *Soobah*, in 1819, as presenting "one uniform scene of plunder and oppression, uninfluenced by any consideration, but that of collecting, by whatever means, the largest amount possible."

On assuming charge, Colonel Agnew's attention was easily directed to introducing order and regularity into the system we found established, or rather to re-organizing it. With this view, the following general measures were adopted by him.

The

The *Puttees* of latest introductions, which could be considered as forming no part of the regular assessment were abolished. The payments of the *Kists* were fixed at periods favorable to the interests of the *Ryuts*, and receipts were directed to be given to the *Gowteeahs* on each payment.

The *Chittees* of the revenue servants were defined by proclamation; all unauthorized perquisites were abolished, and their salaries fixed; that of the *Kumaishdar* at one and a half per cent. on the gross collections, the *Sayer* not included. *Furnaveese* and assistants, at one per cent., the expenses of the *Kutchery*, &c. called *Kharuj Mooshahira*, at half per cent., and the *Sirpow*, or annual presents to *Putels*, at half per cent. on the land revenue only. For the purpose of gaining information respecting the state of the cultivation, checking the accounts of the *Furnaveese*, and supplying the want of village writers, *Ameens* were appointed to each *Pergunnah*, on an allowance of one per cent. of its revenues, and *Pandy's* to every twenty or thirty villages. The *Roodkars* were allowed a monthly pay of two and a half rupees.

The duties of the *Putels* and *Gowteeahs* were also laid down, and their emoluments settled; those of the former at one anna on each rupee of land revenue of the latter, agreeably to former custom, a plough rent-free in every eight of his village, and one in every sixteen, to be sown by the *Gowteeah's* seed, and dressed by the whole *Ryuts* in common.

The terms of the *Kowles*, on which waste land was to be reclaimed, were also laid down, and forms established for recording the details of the agreements entered into between the *Gowteeahs* and *Ryuts*.

Colonel Agnew experienced great difficulty in settling the balances

due on our taking charge, and fixing the assessment of the year 1228 *Fusslee.*

The total amount of the arrears of the *Khalsa* lands borne on the accounts, was one lac, seventy-seven thousand, six hundred and eight rupees; but on investigation it was found, that the greater portion of this sum was the accumulation in the Marhatta accounts, of bad debts and unrealized revenue, to enforce the payment of which would have been impracticable, and to attempt it unjust; accordingly, one lac, thirty-four thousand, five hundred and ninety-nine rupees was, at once, remitted, thirty six thousand, five hundred rupees ordered to be collected, and the remainder retained as a doubtful balance.

For the purpose of fixing the assessment for the year 1228, an attempt was made to ascertain correctly the amount actually realized during the ten previous years; but from the imperfect state of the records, no satisfactory information could be obtained, and as there was no time to gain the minute knowledge necessary to make a village settlement, in fixing the revenue for that year, Colonel Agnew was obliged to allow his decision to be guided by circumstances of a general nature. Combining whatever information he was able to collect, relative to the collections of former years, with the existing circumstances, calculated to occasion an increase or diminution of the revenue, he fixed the amount of the *Pergunnah* assessment, and having assembled the *Putels* and *Gowteeahs*, in almost every case, obtained their acquiescence to the demand, the apportionment of which, on the several villages, was left to the *Kumaishdar*, who generally settled it without opposition. In the case, however, of any of the *Gowteeahs* refusing to agree to the proposed arrangement, the matter was referred to the superintendent, who made such changes in the distribution as appeared to be called for; and upon the settlement being finally concluded,

concluded, he issued proclamations specifying the amount to be paid by each village, the principal object of which measure was to guard against undue exactions, and for a similar end, the arrangement regarding the arrears was made public in the same manner.

The migrating habits of the people, and the general poverty of the *Gowteeahs* has, hitherto, prevented the settlements in this district from being concluded for more than one year.

No very satisfactory account of the land revenue of former years can be given; but from the best sources, the average collections for the ten years previous to 1228, may be stated at three lacs and sixty thousand, five hundred and ninety-eight rupees.

Our collections have been,

In 1228,	3,31,470
1229,	3,47,590
1230,	3,80,826
1231,	4,04,797
1232,	4,18,007
1233,	4,03,424
1234,	3,85,840

Remarks on the subject of restrictions on the *Putels* with regard to the apportionment of the assessment; being the only innovation introduced by us into the revenue system.

From the foregoing explanations it will be understood, that the only thing, in the shape of innovation, that has been introduced into the revenue system, we found established in the country, is the restriction to which the *Putels*, in the *Wyne Gunga* and *Chanda* districts, have been subjected, to collect the assessment of their villages, in conformity with an appointment of it laid down by the superintendent.

The

The Resident was induced to sanction this measure, on the representation of the superintendents, rather from an apprehension of the possibility of its being necessary, than from a conviction of its actually being so, he not being, at that time, in possession of sufficient experience to decide with confidence on the question. Being now, however, of opinion, that the precaution is unnecessary, whilst its adoption, as a general and permanent arrangement, would probably be attended with imbarrassing consequences, he has determined, that on the occasion of making new settlements, the restriction shall be removed in the districts where it is now in force.

The reasons which have led to this determination are, that it is doubtful whether, in fact, there is any evil to remedy, and supposing that an evil exists, whether the remedy proposed is calculated to remove it.

The evil is stated to be, injustice committed by the *Putels* towards the *Ryuts*, in consequence of the former not being bound down by the Government to adhere to prescribed terms, in letting out the village lands; but as there are no fixed rates, nor hereditary tenures, injustice can here only mean an undue appointment of the assessment, with relation to the circumstances that usually regulate and affect it. But from the fullest investigation and consideration of the subject, it appears probable, that the evil is more imaginary than real. It cannot be discovered, that any mischievous effects arose from the exercise of the power by the *Putels*, under the Marhatta administration, nor that they are at present felt in those districts in which matters have been allowed to remain, all along, on their original footing. It is, indeed, not very easy to imagine, how injustice of the nature alluded to is to be committed; there are no rights to be infringed, nor hereditary tenures, for the preservation of which any class might agree to terms disadvantageous in themselves.

But

But admitting that an evil of this description does exist, is it likely to be removed by the proposed remedy? It must be borne in mind, that the thing to be accomplished, is a due apportionment of the assessment. No one acquainted with the multifarious considerations which affect these arrangements, can doubt that the ability of the *Putel* and village community to effect them, is much greater than that of any other persons. They have an experience, for the absence of which nothing can compensate, and they alone are in possession of that minute information respecting the productive powers and actual state of the lands, and the circumstances of each individual cultivator, which is necessary to regulate those annual changes in the distribution of the assessment, which must be admitted if the village is to pay to Government a sum equal, or nearly so, to the real rent of its lands.

If we take this duty out of the hands in which it is now generally invested, and place it in those of the revenue servants of the Government, we may be assured that whatever may be their integrity and zeal, they have not the same means of performing it, and the question resolves itself into this—Shall the duty be left to those who can perform it well, and who have performed it for generations; but who may, possibly, abuse their power, or shall it be confided to others, who would not abuse the power, but who have not the ability of performing the duty equally well? As the degree to which the power has been, or may be abused by the one party, cannot be ascertained any more than the degree to which mistakes would be made by the other, there is no way of solving the doubt satisfactorily, which alone is a sufficient reason for avoiding the innovation; for unless the advantage of a change which so essentially affects the principle of the existing system can be clearly shewn, it ought not to be permitted.

It may further be remarked, that the superintendent, or *Kumaishdar*, at the same time that he has less knowledge to enable him to make a good settlement, has greater power and influence to enable him to conclude a bad one. A *Putel* attempting to introduce a bad apportionment, would be more strenuously and obstinately opposed, and more likely to yield, not only on that account, but from a conviction of his being in the wrong than the other, who would adhere to his own arrangement with all the pertinacity, arising from a conviction of a purity of design. Looking also to the extent of the labour, and intricacy of apportioning assessments, in the first instance, and regulating their annual changes subsequently, it may at once be pronounced, that, even if it were possible to perform the duty equally well by other agents, than those now employed, we have not those agents at command, and, consequently, the attempt would be unwise, and but little justified by the zeal that prompted it.

PART II.

SAYER, KULLALEE, SEEWAEE, AND PANDRY.

IT is not easy to give a clear and concise account of the numerous imposts included under the above general heads. Their classification is arbitrary, apparently, and made without any reference to the nature of the tax, or the mode of its collection. In the Appendix No. 3, an enumeration of them is given, in which they have been differently arranged. In this place it may suffice to mention, that the *Sayer* embraces, besides a duty on home produce, passing from one part of the country to another, or beyond the frontier, and on foreign productions in transit, numerous other taxes of a miscellaneous description, on sales, stamping cloths, and on several petty monopolies.

The *Kullalee*, or *Abkaree*, is the tax on contracts or licences for the vending spirituous liquors.

The *Seewaee* is composed of numerous petty taxes of different kinds, and

and the *Pandry* is a cess on houses, and intended to fall particularly on that part of the population, not engaged in agriculture, and not paying any part of the land revenue.

As a whole, this system of taxation is complicated and bad; almost all of the taxes are, in principle, highly objectionable; the mode of collection is, in many cases, expensive and vexatious, and the effects, in respect to numbers of them, are to impede production, and the circulation of commodities. The sacrifice of doing away with the whole of the *Seewaee* collections would have been trifling, in comparison with the relief afforded from their abolition; a general reformation of the *Sayer*, on the principles recently established in the Company's acquired districts, was greatly desirable, as also a revision of the *Kullalee*, with the view of encreasing to the people the difficulty of indulging in habits of drunkenness, to which certain classes of them are unfortunately but too prone; still, however, the consideration that the British administration was only temporary, prevented the introduction of a radical change in a system intrinsically faulty, but to which, from long habit, the people seem to be well reconciled; the collections being made every where, without dispute or complaint. Our views were, accordingly, confined to ameliorating the order of things we found established, for which end the duties on grain, and other produce of the lands, in garden stuff, grass, firewood, &c. which pressed with peculiar weight on the lower orders, and the judicial taxes as a source of revenue were all abolished.

From the remissions, great benefit has been derived by all classes. The immediate sacrifice of revenue was, no doubt, great, amounting to nearly a lack and a half of rupees; but the effects of the measure, on agriculture and manufactures, have probably gone far to repay it.

Another

Another surrender of revenue, but to a small amount, has been made lately in the abolition of all interior duties on cotton; the object of which was to prevent, as much as possible, the amount of land produce being limited to what may be required for home consumption, by encouraging the raising of a commodity, likely to find its way to foreign markets, either in a raw or manufactured state; but which grain is never likely to do from this country, surrounded by tracts possessing a similar soil and climate. and equally favorable to the culture of all kinds of corn.

Under the Marhatta management, the *Sayer* was invariably farmed out, as well as some of the taxes included in the *Seewaee:* on our assuming charge, the same practice was continued for some time in all the districts, but with the exception of *Chulteesgurh*, where no change has ever taken place; it has, at different times, been held in *Amanee* in all the other districts, and is so now in the *Wyne Gunga*, *Chanda*, and *Deogurh Balla Ghaut* divisions; but in *Deogurh* below the *Ghauts*, it is at present held in contract. In all cases every precaution has been taken to protect the people against unauthorized exaction, by giving publicity to the established demands. As these demands vary in almost every *Pergunnah*, no general detail of them could be furnished without entering into much lengthened and uninteresting detail.

During the *Fusslee* years 1232 and 1233, the *Sayer* was *Khalsa* in four divisions of *Deogurh*, *Wyne Gunga*, *Chanda*, and *Deogurh* above the *Ghauts*, and with a view to shew the chief articles on which it was collected, the following statement is given.

No. I.

	Deoguem.		Wyne Gunga.		Chanda.		Deoguem Balaghat.		Total.	
	1232	1233	1232	1233	1232	1233	1232	1233	1232	1233
Grain, ...	36,934 3 11	8,270 0 0	72,518 1 0	... .	9,630 7 0	... ...	4,887 14 2	... ...	123,970 10 1	8,270 0 0
Sugar, ...	3,299 2 6	5,234 5 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	12,668 9 0	21,674 9 0	15,967 11 6	26,908 14 0
Salt, ...	10,344 0 0	12,726 14 6	} 16,114 14 3	57,924 4 4½	11,062 1 3	2,553 1 3	3,494 6 6	3,385 2 6	} 69,148 14 4½	84,843 7 4½
Cotton, ...	10,404 8 3	8,408 0 0					17,729 0 1½	29,846 0 9		
Cloth, ...	4,294 0 0	12,860 0 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	2,727 2 8¾	3,609 15 0	7,021 2 8¾	16,469 15 0
Kiranu, ...	4,164 5 6	5,798 10 3	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	7,142 7 6¾	7,694 4 4	11,306 13 0¾	13,492 14 7
Ghee, ...	... ...	124 0 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	1,492 4 7	1,458 6 9	1,492 4 7	1,582 6 9
Tobacco, ...	... ...	374 0 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	129 13 9	253 8 9	129 13 9	627 8 9
Wood, ...	3,034 0 0	2,724 0 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	302 5 6	320 1 9	3,336 5 6	3,044 1 4
Goor, ...	1,091 12 3	1,007 0 6	3,221 15 4	3,194 5 3	4,186 9 3	4,654 6 9	1,647 4 5	1,575 1 0	10,147 9 8	10,430 13 6
Turmerick, ...	218 0 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	123 0 0	202 15 9	341 0 0	202 15 9
Oil, ...	156 0 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	385 14 0	131 11 3	541 14 0	131 11 3
Silk, ...	307 0 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	207 0 9	278 7 3	514 0 9	278 7 3
Mohwa, ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	5,379 5 6	1,483 7 3	2,285 12 6	567 6 3	189 15 2	2,030 13 6	7,755 1 2
Stamping Cloths, ...	6,408 0 0	1,153 0 0	26,012 8 3	25,041 5 0	6,979 10 6	1,371 10 6	1,391 6 7½	1,924 14 4½	40,791 9 4½	37,490 13 10¾
Sundries, ...	46,838 4 1	40,214 9 9	59,568 1 0	42,239 11 7½	11,557 4 9	12,917 10 9	6,712 0 1½	9,121 4 2½	124,667 9 11½	104,493 4 4
Total, ...	127,830 4 1	102,894 8 0	177,435 8 3	98,778 15 9	44,899 8 0	37,782 8 9	61,588 0 0½	81,666 5 10¼	411,408 4 9½	316,122 7 4½

On the above it may be remarked, that almost the whole of the cotton, sugar and *Kirana*, paying duty in *Deogurh* above the *Ghauts*, as also a portion of that contributing to the collections of *Deogurh* below the *Ghauts*, was in transit between Mirzapore and *Oomrawtee*,* whilst the duties on cotton and salt, in the other districts, together with those collected on other articles, generally may be said to fall on the internal traffick of the country with the exception of part of the duty in cloth except. The sundries are collections made in the account of taxes of various kinds, included in the *Sayer*.

The following statement shows the amount collected under each general head, during the years of our management.

No. 2.

Fusslee Year.	*Saeer.*			*Kullalee.*			*Seewaee & Pandree.*			*Total.*		
1228	4,45,181	8	10	41,232	1	9	1,48,091	7	6	6,34,504	2	1
1229	4,41,599	2	10	34,761	7	6	86,880	10	$0\frac{1}{2}$	5,63,241	4	$4\frac{1}{2}$
1230	4,88,693	13	10	53,527	12	6	1,59,204	4	3	6,49,425	14	7
1231	5,34,560	1	1	54,069	14	6	1,03,651	12	$7\frac{3}{4}$	6,83,271	12	$2\frac{3}{4}$
1232	4,94,803	4	$9\frac{1}{2}$	55,597	11	9	1,09,514	1	9	6,59,914	2	$3\frac{1}{2}$
1233	4,20,614	15	$8\frac{3}{4}$	68,205	15	0	96,775	9	$8\frac{3}{4}$	5,85,596	8	$5\frac{1}{2}$
1234	4,69,962	8	10	70,912	11	1	98,871	1	$8\frac{3}{4}$	6,39,746	5	$7\frac{3}{4}$

As this statement shews the gross amount of collections on account of *Sayer*, including arrears subsequently collected, it does not correspond with the general accounts which do not comprise the arrears, nor except for the two last years the expences of collections. The duty on grain was abolished about the middle of 1232.

PART

* This trade is on the increase: the number of bullock loads of cotton which paid duty in 1231, was thirteen thousand, whilst in 1235, it was thirty six thousand, nearly.

PART III.

CITY CUSTOMS.*

THE duties levied in the City, under the general term of *Sayer*, are numerous, and the mode of collecting the revenue arising therefrom was, during the first five years of our management, the same as that in force under the former government. It was rather complicated, but not so much so as a first inspection would lead one to infer. It was well adapted to prevent contraband practices, or any evasion of duties by the trader; and its great fault was the want of a sufficient check to prevent fraud and peculation on the part of the native servants employed at the different *Chowkies*. The number of these also, with the establishments attached, were in excess; but many changes and great improvements have been made in this point since the commencement of the *Fusslee* year 1233. The following is a brief and succinct statement of the amount realized in each year by government from the branch of its revenue, with a specification of such articles from whence the greatest amount of duties are obtained. It

* This account of the City Customs was drawn up with considerable labor from the public records, by Captain Isacke, one of the Resident's Assistants.

It may be requisite first to specify the various terms under which the customs and taxes of the city were, and are levied, and give a brief explanation of the nature of each.

All merchandize, from the earliest times, paid import, export, and transit duties, under this denomination, and all taxes imposed on the inhabitants of the city are termed generally *Hookum Hassil* dues. *Hookum Hasil.*

This was, in former times, a duty levied in kind on imported grain alone, and the amount was three *Pylees* out of every cart load; but the late Rajah RUGHOJEE, after his losses in the war of 1803, abolished the tax in kind, and ordered a rupee per cart load to be taken in lieu, and gradually, under this denomination, increased the duties on nearly all the articles that pay *Hookum Hassil* dues. *Zemindaree.*

This is exclusively an import duty, and was, in former days, levied in kind on all articles subject to its operation. It was changed into a money payment by the late RUGHOJEE, after the war of 1803. *Goor Kirana.*

At the commencement of the *Fusslee* year 1233, the system was revised, the terms *Hookum Hassil*, *Zemindaree*, and *Goor Kirana* were discontinued, and in lieu of the former practice of levying import and export duties on one article, under two or three different designations, and at two or three *Chowkies*, the dues on each account were consolidated, and only one payment levied, which was termed "import" or "export" duty, as the case might be.

Are terms synonymous with imports and exports, and *Ooba Marg*, *Ruheet Mall*, and *Urr-rasta*, are all, strictly speaking, transit duties. *Pysarroo* and *Nikasoo.*

 The

The following is a list of the terms under which the taxes of the city are collected :

Nukass. A tax on the sale of cattle, variable according to the value and kind of animals sold.

Kahun Dakka. A tax paid for permission to beat *Tom-toms* at marriage festivals; the amount of this tax is also variable, being from one and a half ana, to one rupee three and a quarter anas, according to the division of the city in which the ceremony takes place.

Ghur Chuotaee and Guyall. A duty levied on the sale of houses and slaves; generally a fourth of the amount, as the term implies ; but in some divisions something more than a fourth.

Pakdam. A tax levied on marriages of widows: amount varying according to the caste of the woman, and the division where she may reside.

Chappah. Tax on the stamping of cloths manufactured in Nagpore, and the adjacent villages; about half an ana per piece.

Dongah. Tax levied on boats paying at the *Ghats* on the *Kunhan* river, near Nagpore.

Kulla Warputtee. Tax on *Shroffs* who lend out money at an usurious rate, and levied in proportion to the extent of the usurious dealings.

Muhar Dullalee. Tax on brokers of the *Dher* cast, in proportion to the business transacted by the individual.

Tax

Tax on brokers of the weavers' caste, in proportion as above. *Dullal Koshtee.*

This can scarcely be deemed a tax, the amount appearing under this head in the city customs being, in reality, the net profit arising from the sale of tobacco, *Ganja*, opium, &c. exclusively monopolized by the Government. *Tumbaccoo Kotee.*

This was a duty levied formerly on the sale of snuff, but in 1233 it was added to the *Tumbaccoo Kotee.* *Nus Kothee.*

Rent of *Dookans*, the property of Government. *Dookan Barra.*

Duty levied from the small money changers, on market days, in each division. *Nanote Phurry.*

Tax on butchers, who kill buffaloes. There are only two in Nagpore, who formerly used to feed the Rajah's tigers and *Cheetas;* but in lieu of this, now pay this tax to Government. *Dhoté Kussaee.*

Duty on lime kilns, in proportion to their extent. *Choona Bhuttee.*

Tax on the red powder used at the *Hooly* festival. *Goolal Hoondee.*

Tax levied from *Dheemurs*, in the city, for the liberty of fishing in three small tanks. *Muchee Talao.*

A tax on the shops of the mutton butchers, in proportion to their dimensions. *Byluck Kassaee.*

A tax on the ornaments attached to the horns of cattle, during the *Bota* festival. *Begur Kothee.*

Tax

Phurree Luckur Gunge. Tax on retail wood shops, in that *Gunge.*

Burgoojhar. Tax on the fields near the city where *Paun* is cultivated.

Paundree. A tax on houses.

Mundwa Thul. A tax on temporary buildings for marriage ceremonies: more is paid on the occasion of a boy's marriage, than on that of a girl.

Ghur Koshtee. Tax on weavers' houses, who do not pay *Pandree.*

Bytuck Dookan. A tax on small temporary shops, on which duties are not levied under the term *Pandree.*

Tuhu Bazaree. A tax on the small shops erected, during the market days, in each division of the city.

Kullalee. Under this head all duties on the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors are collected.

Kotwallee. This is a tax generally farmed out to individuals of the *Dher* caste, who pay a certain sum to Government for permission to levy a tax, in kind, on all shops opened on market days, in certain divisions of the city: they also remove all carcases of animals dying in their division, and profit by the hides.

Khets. The rent of certain fields belonging to Government, in the vicinity of the city.

Duty

Duty on the coinage of silver into rupees.	*Tuxall.*
Duty on the coinage of copper into pice.	*Pice Mint.*
Duty on the sale of musk.	*Custooree Dullalee*
Duty on oil mills.	*Tail Danee.*
Tax on retail oil shops.	*Tail Phurree.*
Tax on retail tobacco shops.	*Tumbaccoo Pharree.*
Duty paid on stamping cotton thread.	*Sooth Chappa.*
Tax on the retail of silk.	*Reshem Dandee.*
Profit arising from sale of pice, belonging to Government.	*Kusser.*

A trifling duty levied from all kinds of chapmen, who resort to the spot where the machine is erected, for the purpose of *Churruck Poojah.* *Gul Mengnat.*

Fines levied on the servants of the establishment, when detected in fraud, peculation, or other misdemeanors. *Zureemana.*

A few other taxes of a trifling nature were, formerly, in force, but have been lately abolished, as yielding little profit, and being vexatious to the inhabitants; and a few more might be abrogated on the same principles. It should be explained, that in the *Saeer* account of the city, is included the amount realized from the *Saeer* of the villages, situated in the Nagpore *Pergunna*, amounting in number to about three hundred and sixty.

 It

It was customary in the times of the late RUGHOJEE, and of the Ex-Rajah APPA SAHIB, to give certain duties of the *Saeer* in *Izarah*, and keep the remainder in *Amanee*. The *Zemindaree*, *Kullalee*, *Goor Kirana*, and the duties on wood and other minor articles, were generally farmed out to the highest bidders; the *Hookum Hassil*, and stamp duties, and the taxes on houses and shops, were always in *Amanee*, and the collection of the revenues arising therefrom, entrusted to one of the Rajah's chief favourites. In those days, the Mint was not included under the head of *Saeer*, but was attached to the *Silleekhana*.

On our assuming charge of the country, in the beginning of 1228, we followed the same system, and the *Zemindarree*, *Kullalee*, *Goor Kirana*, and other duties of minor importance were given in *Izarah*, and the *Hookum Hassil*, and other duties, with the addition of the Mint, held on *Amanee*. The following year a trial was made of farming the whole *Saeer*, without reserve. It was rented for a sum considerably more than that realized during the preceding year, but the result was unfavorable, as some nefarious transactions, in adulterating the specie coined at the Mint, were discovered, and, in consequence, the contract was resumed about the eighth month of 1229. Since that period, the *Saeer* has generally been held in *Amanee*, though certain duties, such as the *Kullalee*, *Goor Kirana*, *&c.* were occasionally given in *Izarah*, when proposals were made by individuals of respectability, who could give undeniable security for the fulfilment of their contracts.

The following tables have been compiled for the first two years from the *Dufters*, and accounts obtained from the *Karkoons* and *Mootesuddees* employed under the principal contractors, and are as correct as patient investigation and strict scrutiny of each article can make them. The statements for 1230 to 1234 were extracted from the accounts and reports periodically sent in by the collector of city customs. No.

No. 1.—Exhibits the amount of import duties for the seven years, and specifies the particular sum received on each article of any consideration.

No. 2.—Exhibits, in a similar manner, the amounts of export duties.

No. 3.—Is, in like manner, a statement of the transit duties received.

No. 4.—Exhibits the amount of city duties, or taxes during that period.

No. 5.—Is a statement exhibiting the total amount of *Saeer*, for each year.

No. 6.—Is a statement of expences of collections in each year.

No. 1

Statement of Import Duties received during the Years 1228 *to* 1234, *inclusive.*

	1228	1229	1230	1231	1232	1233	1234
Grain, ...	60,106 13 6	52,934 8 3	64,755 8 9	51,481 13 5¾	60,116 5 3	64,481 11 3	53,641 11 0
Kirana or Spices, of all kinds, ...	12,140 3 0	17,340 2 6	11,844 9 0	3,353 1 0	3,514 14 0	4,934 5 1¾	5,214 13 9¼
Sugar, Sweetmeats, Goor, &c.	10,024 14 6	15,124 14 6	7,880 11 6	4,048 10 6	4,900 12 9	5,359 13 5	5,312 13 6¾
Wood of all kinds, ...	8,214 11 9	12,340 3 0	5,621 10 6	12,708 3 9¼	15,465 1 0	18,505 4 4½	22,538 0 6¾
Oil, Ghee, &c.	5,708 9 6	6,040 5 3	1,749 3 0	3,290 7 9	3,217 5 6	3,916 1 0	4,533 5 6
Tabacco, Ganga, Opium, &c.	2,577 8 0	3,090 6 6	4,293 7 6	2,175 3 3	1,663 8 3	0 0 0	5 13 6
Paun Sooparee, ...	4,507 4 9	4,800 0 0	4,657 4 0	3,756 15 6	3,575 0 0	3,074 3 3	3,003 10 0
Silks, Shawls, Piece Goods, Chintz, Shahuns, &c. of Foreign manufacture, ...	3,671 13 0	4,074 15 0	3,897 3 0	3,068 2 0	1,447 3 6	30,24 12 6½	2,974 0 2¼
Cloths, Manufactured in the Nagpore territories, ...	3,047 13 0	3,171 13 0	4,463 12 0	4,363 2 9	4,615 14 6	5,421 14 9	7,151 5 0½
Cotton, ...	743 0 0	793 0 0	780 5 0	1,689 0 0	520 5 9	2,276 2 8½	2,397 7 8¾
Mohwa, ...	1,553 6 0	1,674 14 0	1,453 2 3	5,374 9 6	8,601 3 6	9,883 12 0	10,000 0 0
Salt and Salt Petre, ...	461 8 0	745 6 0	1,436 9 0	2,804 8 9	2,541 3 0	4,088 13 6	3,819 3 0
Indigo, ...	388 2 0	450 12 0	671 14 0	218 3 6	360 2 0	560 0 0	948 8 7½
Metals and Wool, ...	70 0 0	230 10 0	229 6 6	191 5 3	403 6 3	744 9 6	820 15 10½
Sundries, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	567 7 0	1,750 3 3	1,793 11 10	1,801 5 2¾
Total,.....	113,216 5 0	123,011 14 0	119,734 10 0	100,090 14 0	112,692 8 6	128,065 3 3	123,763 1 6¾

Rates of Import Duties.

	Rs.	As.	P.	
On Grain, ...	1	4	0	per Cart-load.
„ Kirana, ...	15	4	0	„ ditto on the more valuable kind of Spices.
—— and ...	1	2	0	„ ditto on those of minor value.
„ Sugar, ...	3	9	0	„ ditto.
„ Sweetmeats,	2	10	0	„ ditto.
„ Goor, ...	1	11	0	„ ditto.

	Rs.	As.	P.	
On Ghee, ...	1	0	0	per Bullock-load.
„ Oil, ...	0	12	0	„ ditto.
„ Paun Sooparee, ...	1	2	0	„ ditto.
„ Silk Shawls, &c. ..	10	8	0	„ ditto
„ Cloths of this Country,	5	2	0	„ ditto.
„ Cotton, ...	0	15	6	„ ditto.

	Rs.	As.	P.	
On Indigo, ...	5	0	0	per Bullock-load.
„ Salt, ..	0	9	0	„ ditto.
„ Salt Petre,	1	5	0	„ ditto.
„ Wood, The Duty on this Article varies in proportion to the nature, size, and value of the wood imported.				

No. 2.

Statement of Export Duties received during the Years 1228 *to* 1234, *inclusive.*

	1228	1229	1230	1231	1232	1233	1234
Grain, ...	228 12 0	743 5 6	280 6 0	155 1 6	376 15 6	0 0 0	0 0 0
Silks, Shawls, and Cloths in general, not manufactured in the Nagpore territories, ...	2,103 12 6	4,314 7 0	4,023 2 6	2,622 14 6	1,410 2 3	3,747 6 3	2,889 13 1½
Cloths, manufactured in the Nagpore territories, ...	2,210 6 9	2,919 10 9	2,616 10 9	2,378 7 9	2,952 2 6	3,890 0 3	3,775 1 0
Kirana, or Spices, of all kinds, ...	583 14 0	999 10 9	758 14 0	1,096 6 3	606 1 0	1,203 12 6	1,021 0 9
Cotton, ...	421 6 0	635 14 0	501 2 0	122 12 9	291 6 3	608 9 6	462 0 3
Tobacco, &c.	225 3 0	429 5 6	254 0 0	50 12 9	12 14 3	0 0 0	0 0 0
Cocoanuts, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	100 9 0	243 8 0	165 7 0
Wool and Metals, ...	0 0 0	60 13 0	69 1 0	235 7 3	279 15 6	221 4 3	180 0 0
Sugar, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	59 9 9	52 14 6	15 5 0	6 6 0
Indigo, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	262 7 0	414 1 6	587 5 9	652 11 0
Mohwah, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	169 11 3	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0
Salt, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	107 15 3	119 12 0	117 6 0	71 5 3
Sundries, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	42 14 6	75 3 0	42 13 6	29 9 9
Total, ..	5,775 6 3	10,102 2 9	8,503 4 3	7,784 8 6	6,692 1 3	10,667 7 0	9,253 8 1½

Rates of Export Duties.

	Rs.	As.	P.	
On Silks and Shawls, ...	10	8	0	per Bullock-load.
,, Cloths of this Country,	5	2	0	,, ditto ditto.
,, Kirana, ...	5	4	0	,, ditto ditto, on valuable Spices.
and	0	11	0	,, ditto ditto, on all others.
,, Cotton, ...	0	10	0	,, ditto ditto.

	Rs.	As.	P.	
On Cocoanuts, ...	0	4	0	per Bullock-load.
,, Indigo, ...	3	6	0	,, ditto ditto.
,, Sugar, ...	0	4	0	,, ditto ditto.
,, Salt, ...	0	9	6	,, ditto ditto.

No. 3.

Statement of Transit Duties collected during the Years 1228 *to* 1234, *inclusive.*

	1228	1229	1230	1231	1232	1233	1234
Grain, ...	20,350 10 9	20,712 5 0	17,563 4 0	3,134 11 0	2,655 15 6	2,776 13 0	1,525 12 9
Cloth manufactured in the Nagpore territories, ...	1,581 2 9	4,911 15 0	4,097 4 0	3,146 15 3	3,168 15 6	2,067 1 1¼	2,461 15 6½
Kirana, ...	2,235 7 0	2,975 8 0	2,609 11 0	410 15 3	236 9 3	482 11 6	421 0 7
Silks, Shawls, and Piece Goods, not the manufacture of the Nagpore territory, ...	660 10 0	1,406 6 0	947 7 0	414 12 3	193 7 0	160 1 0	287 4 0
Cotton, ...	774 0 0	2,220 13 0	1,208 4 9	234 7 6	211 15 9	130 2 4	267 5 8½
Salt, ...	887 8 0	1,940 8 0	976 0 0	278 1 9	360 5 6	441 3 4½	319 8 7½
Wood, ...	0 0 0	170 1 0	210 4 0	825 8 0	721 9 3	340 0 0	1,030 8 0
Sugar, &c.	0 0 0	2,421 2 0	573 7 0	70 2 3	20 10 0	2 13 0	15 1 0
Tobacco, Ganga, &c.	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	139 1 6	40 0 0	3 7 4	25 0 0
Geror, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	145 2 0
Mohwah, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	26 8 0	155 14 6	19 14 0
Pawn Sooparee, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	2 10 3	0 0 0	46 1 7¾
Sundries, ...	0 0 0	455 12 0	210 0 0	66 2 6	10 15 3	48 10 11½	5 5 7½
Total, ...	26,289 6 6	37,214 6 0	28,395 9 9	8,720 13 3	7,649 9 3	6,608 14 0	6,369 15 6

Rates of Duties levied on Transits.

On Grain,	1 4 0	per Cart-load.
,, Kirana,	0 9 0	,, Bullock ditto, on all kinds.
,, Silks Shawls, &c.	12 0 0	,, Ditto ditto ditto.
,, Cloths of this Country,	5 14 0	,, Ditto ditto ditto.
,, Cotton,	0 4 0	,, Ditto ditto ditto.
,, Salt,	0 12 0	,, Cart-load.

No. 4.

Statement of the Amount Collected on City Taxes from 1228 *to* 1234, *inclusive.*

	1228	1229	1230	1231	1232	1233	1234
On Cattle Sold,	3,921 6 6	5,590 12 0	5,398 0 6	4,830 8 0	4,072 7 0	5,026 1 0	5,023 11 3
,, Stamps,	1,583 5 6	5,590 2 0	4,537 3 3	4,768 4 0	5,305 6 5	5,831 2 6	5,880 4 0
,, Sale of Spirituous Liquors,	61,000 0 0	52,550 0 0	39,000 0 0	36,676 14 3	36,709 15 9	30,911 13 9	31,911 12 0
,, The Silver Coinage of the Mint,	35,000 0 0	50,000 0 0	23,381 13 0	4,976 4 9	2,395 10 6	7,283 9 0	6,614 10 0
,, The Copper ditto ditto,	7,831 5 0	9,000 0 0	2,250 0 0	6,704 15 6	3,039 11 6	0 0 0	423 0 0
,, Houses, Shops, Stalls, &c.	17,717 8 0	18,590 12 0	16,731 7 9	17,927 2 3	17,415 0 0	16,176 0 6	17,145 9 9
,, The weighing and measuring of Goods Imported and Sold in the City,	7,666 11 0	8,293 13 0	7,708 1 0	8,656 7 0	9,858 11 6	7,513 3 9	8,233 13 6
,, The Sale of Snuff,	4,500 0 0	3,000 0 0	3,003 6 3	3,070 7 3	2,453 7 0	0 0 0	0 0 0
,, Marriage Ceremonies,	2,796 14 0	1,655 13 0	1,494 3 6	2,272 4 3	1,655 0 6	1,627 9 6	2,063 10 0
,, Fruit and Vegetables,	4,490 6 0	4,550 0 0	5,000 0 0	3,923 2 0	4,302 3 0	4,003 3 3	4,201 0 0
Taxes levied in the 360 Villages of Pergunnah Nagpore,	2,555 8 0	2,350 0 0	1,519 10 0	0 0 0	1,200 0 0	1,193 5 3	1,200 0 0
On Butchers' Meat,	1,844 1 3	2,300 0 0	1,900 0 0	2,032 10 3	2,015 7 0	2,133 3 0	2,040 1 9
Profits arising from the Monopoly of Tobacco, Ganja, Opium, Nusputee,	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	13,143 11 6	15,489 10 9	16,610 6 3
On certain Fields and Gardens near the City,	1,754 14 0	1,884 12 0	1,494 11 6	2,738 3 3	3,030 10 0	3,029 15 0	3,087 15 9
,, Sundry trifling articles,	2,223 0 0	3,573 10 0	2,961 11 6	2,962 3 9	3,454 6 6	3,554 2 9	5,091 5 6
Total,	148,883 13 3	168,929 10 0	115,771 4 6	101,539 6 6	112,051 12 0	103,764 0 0	109,527 3 9

No. 5.

Statement exhibiting the Total Amount of the Sacer of the City of Nagpore, during the Years 1228 *to* 1234, *inclusive.*

	1228	1229	1230	1231	1232	1233	1234
Amount of Import Duties, ...	113,216 5 0	123,011 14 0	113,734 10 0	100,090 14 0	112,692 8 6	128,065 3 3	123,763 1 6½
Amount of Export Duties, ...	5,775 6 3	10,102 2 9	8,503 4 3	7,784 8 6	6,692 1 3	10,877 7 0	9,253 8 1½
Amount of Transit Duties, ...	26,289 6 6	37,214 6 0	28,393 9 9	8,720 13 3	7,649 9 3	6,608 14 1½	6,569 15 6
Amount of City Taxes, ...	148,885 13 3	168,929 10 0	115,771 4 6	101,539 8 6	112,051 12 0	103,764 0 0	109,527 3 9
Total, ...	294,166 15 0	339,258 0 9	266,404 12 6	218,135 10 3	239,085 15 0	249,115 8 4½	249,113 12 11½

No. 6.

Statement of Expenses of Management during the Years 1228 *to* 1234, *inclusive.*

	1228	1229	1230	1231	1232	1233	1234
Swusthanick, or Amount paid to Gond Rajah, ...	6,497 0 0	6,497 0 0	6,497 0 0	6,497 0 0	6,497 0 0	6,497 0 0	6,497 0 0
Dhurmadao, or sums paid in Charity, ...	2,022 6 3	2,326 0 0	1,881 1 9	1,941 2 6	1,784 14 9	1,961 0 0	1,969 2 0
Enaums, or Grants of Lands, ...	1,304 14 6	1,304 14 6	1,304 14 6	1,304 14 6	1,304 14 6	1,304 14 6	1,304 14 6
Kullalee Nuzzer to Baka Baee, ...	1,000 0 0	*0 0 0	2,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0
Expenses of Collections, ...	20,068 14 6	11,638 8 6	20,083 15 0	21,617 10 9	19,889 4 0	19,889 4 0	17,659 3 9
Total, ...	30,893 3 3	21,766 6 6	32,366 15 3	32,350 11 9	30,652 14 3	30,652 14 6	28,370 4 3

* The whole year of 1229, was farmed out during eight months, hence the small amount incurred by Government for expenses of management.

It appears from the statements, that the duties on imports, and the taxes levied in the city, form nearly the whole amount of the *Saer;* the receipts on account of transit and export duties being, comparatively, inconsiderable. Of imports, grain is the principal article; the revenue derived from it being equal to the aggregate of the amount of all other import duties. Wood, cloths, and spices are the next in value: the duties on wood have increased considerably since 1231 *Fusslee;* but this has not arisen so much from the larger quantity of the article brought for sale, as from discontinuing the practice of allowing all the people of consequence in the city, and all the petty *Mootsuddees*, and retainers of the court, to purchase and bring in the wood for their own use free of duty. The great increase in the amount of import duties paid on the article *Mohwa*, since 1231 *Fusslee*, is merely a transfer from the *Kullalee*, of a sum which is, and was strictly a duty paid for the importation of the flower, from which the spirituous liquor is extracted, but which it had been customary to include in the amount paid by the *Kullalee* contractor.

The other items in the statement of imports, require no observations.

In statement No. 4, the amount put down as duties paid at the Mint, is not correct, in as much as it exhibits only the net profits, the expenses of the Mint being struck out of both sides of *Saer* account. These expenses averaged from fifty to sixty per cent. annually, during the last three or four years.

The decrease in the receipts from the Mint of late years, has been occasioned by the reduction of nearly one-half in the charges for coining. The seignorage was formerly two and a half per cent.; but in 1233, was fixed at one and a half per cent. The revenue from this source is likewise much affected by the rates of exchange between Nagpore and Poona, and Hyderabad.

No observations are required regarding the other taxes in the city. They have, in general, become more productive than in former years.

PART IV.

OOBARY, OR TRIBUTE, AND ACCOUNT OF THE ZEMINDARS.

Deogurh below the *Ghauts.*

THERE are, properly speaking, no *Zemindars* in this quarter. The total amount of the *Oobary* was only two thousand three hundred and eighty-one rupees, three annas and three pie in 1234, and this ought to be classed under another head. In 1228 and 1229, the amount of *Oobaree* mentioned in the general statement of revenue above given, included the *Zemindars* since transferred to the authority of the superintendants of the *Wyne Gunga* and *Chutteesgurh* districts.

Wyne Gunga district.

The *Zemindars* of this district are those in *Lanjhee*, *Sahungurhee*, and *Pertaubghur*, respectively, between the *Wyne Gunga* and the *Lanjhee* range of hills.

Those of *Lanjhee* are thirteen in number.

The *Zemindar* of *Comptah* and *Terrora*, NERBHUT PUTEL, is the chief of these, and he pays between seventy and eighty thousand rupees for the former, and twenty-five thousand for the latter, to the Government.

The

The *Talook* of *Comptah* was, originally, given by the first RUGHOJEE to RAM PUTEL, who agreed to bring it into cultivation, at the trifling rent of sixty rupees; afterwards *Huttah* and other small *Talooks* were added to it. RAM PUTEL was succeeded by his brother GONDOO PUTEL, and the latter by his son CHIMNA PUTEL. In consequence of his rebellion, in 1818, it was transferred to NERBHUT PUTEL, who had adhered to the new government, under most trying circumstances. The rent of the *Zemindaree* had, in the interval, been gradually raised to its present amount. NERBHUT is a mere cultivator, very rich, and obedient in every way to the government.

Dunseewah is the next in value, paying an *Oobary* of between seven and eight thousand rupees. It originally belonged to *Huttah*, and thirty years ago was given to WILLAYUT KHAN, *Pathan*, for a fixed rent of six hundred rupees, by GONDEE PUTEL, of *Comptah*, who was himself unable to induce people to inhabit it, owing to the constant incursions of the *Gonds*. WILLAYUT KHAN succeeded in bringing it into excellent order. CHIMNA PUTEL having endeavored to interfere, a quarrel ensued, and the matter was referred to the government, by whom *Dunseewah* was conferred, by PUTTAH, on WILLAYUT KHAN. Since his death, his widow has held the *Zemindaree;* but, in consequence of debts and other embarrassments, it was requisite to interfere in the management of it for some time. The debts have been cleared off, and the *Zemindaree* restored at an increased rent.

Bhanara was, originally, in *Comptah*, but was given about twenty-five years ago, in *Zemindaree*, by the *Soobahdar* of *Lanjhee*, to JYNOODDEEN KHAN, *Pathan*. It is now held by his nephew MUKEEM KHAN, and pays about four thousand rupees.

Dhurgaon is another *Zemindaree* of about the same value, held by ROODAR

ROODRA PUTEL, to whose ancestor it was given by RAGGOO KURANDIA, when perfectly deserted.

The rest of the *Lanjhee Zemindars* are but of small importance, and pay from seven hundred to sixteen rupees per annum.

There are twelve *Zemindars* in *Puhungurhe*, and six in *Pertaubghur*. The highest payment, in the former, is about nine hundred rupees, and in the latter, about two thousand.

The lands of all the *Zemindars*, with the exception of NERBHUT PUTEL, are either in the hills, or immediately under them. They seem to have been granted, or confirmed, to the ancestors of their present possessors, chiefly *Gonds* and *Rajpoots*, by the *Murhattas*, as rewards for services, or to ensure their assistance in maintaining tranquillity, in a country at that time very unsettled, and affording great facilities for resisting authority. The tenure, as appears by some old *Sunnuds*, obliged the *Zemindarees*, besides paying a fixed rent, to furnish a certain number of armed followers to assist the Government officers in police matters. They were left, by sufferance, entire masters of their own lands and people, as long as they paid the rent demanded by the government, which appears to have been regulated by no fixed rules, and increased as opportunity offered. They were constantly fighting with each other: most of them joined CHIMNA PUTEL, in 1818; but on the fall of *Comptah*, they all submitted, and have since been quiet themslves, and some of them even zealous in the apprehension of thieves and robbers. They are averse to industry, poor, and oppressive managers. They have submitted, with a good grace, to the curtailment of their power of inflicting punishments amongst their own people, and of settling disputes with their neighbors, by recourse to arms, which had been usual, but which it was necessary to put a stop to,

and

and with it, to the occasion it gave for the maintenance of bodies of armed men, who devoured their revenue, and plundered both friends and foes. Constant vigilance is, however, necessary to keep them to their duty, but seeing that they cannot avoid detection, if they commit the slightest irregularity, they have become reconciled to the strictness of our control, by finding that their rents are not increased arbitrarily, as under the *Marhattas*, and that the necessity having ceased for maintaining large retinues, the produce of their lands goes much further than formerly, to enable them to live in comfort and plenty.

Chutteesgurh.

The *Zemindars* of *Chutteesgurh* are, first, those of the western quarter, or the *Khullotee*, as it is called, who were formerly subject to the *Lanjhee* district, but their position being such as to render them more within the reach of the authority of Colonel Agnew, than that of Captain Wilkinson, it was thought advisable to transfer them to the superintendence of the former officer.

The principal of these *Zemindars*, are the chiefs of *Khyragurh* and *Nundgong*, whose situation enables them to command the two principal passes into *Chutteesgurh*, on the side of Nagpore. Their services, during the rebellion in *Lanjhee* and in *Chutteesgurh*, induced the government to partition between them, the territory of the *Zemindar* of *Dongergurh*, who adopted an opposite line of conduct, and after being expelled from his *Zemindaree*, was killed in an affair with a British detachment, in attempting to join APPAH SAHIB at *Puchmurree*.

The subsequent behaviour of these two *Zemindars*, has not been at variance with their former good conduct. They have, on all occasions, shewn a prompt obedience to orders, have dropped the prosecution of a family feud long subsisting between them, have maintained the security

of the roads running through their districts, and the former, at least, has applied himself to improve the resources of his *Zemindaree.*

The *Zemindars* of *Khyragurh* and *Nandgong* are more civilized than their neighbours of the same class. The former prides himself on being a descendant of the old Hindoo dynasty of *Mundilla.* The latter is a *Byraggee,* a cast of devotees who, not unfrequently, blend the character of merchant with their sacred one.

The *Zemindar* of *Kondka,* though a *Gond,* is also of a superior class, in point of appearance and manners, as well as in the extent and value of his country, being situated partly in the plain.

The rest of this class, viz. the *Zemindars* of *Gundye, Sohugepore Lohara,* and *Takoor Tola,* are *Gonds.* Having lands principally in the hills, they are poor, rude in their manners, and shabby in their appearance.

The *Zemindars* of *Khyragurh* and *Nandgong* pay, each, about thirty thousand rupees; of *Kondka,* ten thousand; the others, from two thousand to three hundred and fifty rupees.

The next class are the *Zemindars* of *Kowerdah* and *Pandareeah,* who are *Gonds* of a high family. The lands occupied by these *Zemindars,* on the plain near the north-west corner of *Chutteesgurh,* are of a superior description, and the high road from *Chutteesgurh* to *Mundillah* and *Jubbelpore* runs through them. The disturbances in *Chutteesgurh* in 1818-19 received some countenance, though not openly, from these people. They have since shewn a better disposition, and pay a general, though not always a prompt obedience, to orders. The *Zemindar* of *Kowerdah* is apt to be oppressive, both towards the people residing within his *Zemindaree,* and to traders passing through it, and he is inclined to be contumacious.

The

The amount of their payments is eight thousand six hundred and thirty-five rupees for *Kowerdah*, and seven thousand seven hundred and twenty-seven for *Pandareeah*. They hold their heads high, and have much more state about them than any of the others.

The *Zemindars* of *Paindra*, *Maten*, *Ooproda*, and *Kainda*, inhabit the hills to the north and east of *Ruttenpore*. Their payments are from two thousand and seventy to three hundred rupees per annum. With the exception of the valley of *Paindra*, which is open and partially cultivated, on the road to *Omercuntuk* and *Rewah*, the rest of these lands are very mountainous, but the *Zemindars* are all quiet and obedient, and extremely ignorant, with the exception of the *Zemindar* of *Painda*. The latter has always behaved very well, and owes to us the restitution of his *Zemindaree*, from which he had been expelled, without any apparent good cause, about nineteen years before we took charge of the country. His restoration was a measure of policy, both as a reward for his services to the state, during the disturbances, and to conciliate the *Zemindars* in general, who had been set against us by APPA SAHIB's agents, as well as to counteract the influence of a person named DHUN SING, who had obtained charge of the *Zemindaree*, and who was APPAH SAHIB's principal incendiary. Colonel Agnew thinks the measure has had the best effect, in its general impression; and ADJEET SING, the *Zemindar* in question, has not proved himself unworthy of our favor.

The *Zemindars* of *Chooree*, *Koorba*, and *Chappa*, on the eastern frontier, are of the same tribe as those last named, or *Cowurs*, who trace their origin from the *Dooab* of the *Jumna* and *Ganges*. They pay to the government, the two former, one thousand five-hundred rupees each, and the latter, eight hundred. The lands of the two former are partly mountainous, and partly on the plain, and are only partially cultivated. Those

of

of the latter are entirely on the plain, and pretty well cultivated. The *Zemindar* of *Chooree* is particularly obedient, and well disposed. The *Koorba Zemindar* has also behaved well, though his father gave great trouble to the *Marhattas*. The *Zemindar* of *Chappa* is an intelligent young man, and apparently well disposed. His grand uncle is his *Dewan*, and has great influence amongst the *Zemindars* of that quarter

South of these, and of the *Mahanuddee*, adjoining the *Sumbhalpore* district, and its dependencies, are the petty *Zemindarees* of *Kondwan*, viz. *Sonakan*, *Bhutgaon*, *Bellyghur*, *Kutungee*, *Cowria*, *Birkoonee*, *Soormar*, and *Nurrah*. Of these, RAM RAEE, of *Sonakun*, is the only one who requires separate mention.

The father of RAM RAEE, and the latter himself, though possessing, but a small and a poor *Zemindaree*, had long been the terror of *Chutteesgurh*, from the *Khalsah* lands of which they had dismembered above three hundred villages, besides many others from the neighboring *Zemindars;* and at one time had established such an influence from the dread of their incursions, that an order from them was obeyed with more alacrity, than one from the *Soobahdar*. The country of *Sonakan* had become a secure asylum for all fugitives from *Chutteesgurh*, and a safe deposit for all stolen property. RAM RAEE since we took charge of the country, had continued his usurpations and depredations, and would come to no terms, so that it became necessary to attack him in 1819. He was beaten out of his very strong fastnesses, and brought in by Captain Moxon, and restored to his *Zemindaree*, on condition of giving up the lands which he had usurped, and abstaining from future violence. RAM RAEE faithfully executed the conditions imposed upon him, and, in consequence of the candor and confidence in us, shewn by him, immediately after his submission, some of the *Khalsa Tulooks* were placed under him, as a matter of special favor, to enable

enable him to provide for his immediate relations; and himself, with a party of his people, taken into the service, to assist in maintaining the peace of the country of which he had formerly been the chief disturber.

The tenure by which the *Zemindar* has always held his lands, was that of military service, exempt from any money payment. He is of an ancient family, but his *Zemindaree*, which is both mountainous and woody, does not consist of more than twelve villages. The payments of the others are from nine hundred and sixty to one hundred and seventy-five rupees per annum, each. They are all exceedingly poor and ignorant, and their lands generally much covered with jungle, but they are well disposed, and give no trouble.

These *Zemindarees*, before the *Marhatta* conquest, seem to have been held of the ancient *Chutteesgurh Rajahs*, on the tenure of military service, which the *Marhattas* changed to a tribute. The tribute, however, has fluctuated according to the strength or weakness of the government.

The Resident has seen all the *Zemindars* more than once, and it is pleasing to remark, that, shy as their habits have been, with regard to their *Marhatta* rulers, they have never shewn any want of confidence in Europeans.

Kakair.

The family of the Rajahs of *Kakair*, which place lies about forty miles south from *Ryepore*, and is mentioned as *Konkair* in Captain Blunt's route, is very ancient, and was once possessed of considerable power. The *Zemindaree* was held of the *Marhattas*, on the single condition of furnishing, when called upon, five hundred men for the service of the government, free of expence. About the year 1809, the present Rajah was dispossessed of *Kakair*, as he had formerly been of the district of

Dhumterry, now included in the *Khalsa* lands of the province. In the troubles which arose on the escape of APPAH SAHIB, he joined the rebels, and retook *Kakair* and *Dhumterry*, and other districts. He was expelled from the latter, but confirmed in his ancient seat, under the Resident's authority, on engaging to pay five hundred rupees annually. He has continued grateful and well disposed.

Kuronde. The *Zemindaree* of *Kuronde* lies detached not less than one hundred miles from the south-east frontier of *Chutteesgurh*, and may be ninety miles in length from north to south, and sixty-six miles in breadth from east to west. It is bounded to the north by *Kurair* and *Nowagurh Bendry;* to the east by *Patna, Sonepoor, Godapoor, Vizamcotta* and *Singpore;* to the south by the *Zemindaree* of *Jypore*, in the northern *Circars*, and to the west by *Bustar*. It is the *Cala Handy* of the maps. Very little has been ascertained respecting this country. It is, however, known to be very mountainous and woody, divided into eighteen *Gurhs*, or petty *Zemindarees*, inhabited by *Koands*, who are very wild, and pay nothing but on compulsion. There are great dissentions between the *Zeemindar*, or Rajah, as he is termed, and the other branches of his family. He is connected with the *Khoorda* Rajah, and the Rajah of *Kakair*. As a dependent of the government, he has always been quiet and well disposed.

The Rajah is more civilized in manners and appearance than most of the other *Zemindars* of *Chutteesgurh*. He has visited *Juggernauth*, as well as *Benares* and *Allahabad*. He speaks Hindoostanee not amiss, but his native dialect, and that of the people about him, is the *Ooriya*, or language of *Orissa*. He has received some villages, in *enam*, from the government, which he was anxious to have, and which were granted as a testimony of our approbation of his good behaviour.

Bustar

Bustar appears, by Arrowsmith's map, to be rather more than two hundred miles in length, from north to south, and somewhat less in its greatest breadth, from east to west; but every account which has been received by Colonel Agnew from the natives, makes the length considerably greater. Little is known of the country, but that it is both a woody and hilly tract, the vallies of which alone are cultivated, and partially cleared of jungle. *Bustar.*

The Rajah of *Bustar* shewed a favorable disposition towards the new order of things from the commencement. He had sent *Vakeels* to the Superintendent in December, 1818, to make professions of his obedience and good will, and had received every encouragement. It was not, however, until the month of March, 1819, that specific engagements were concluded with his *Vakeels* by Colonel Agnew. In the mean time, the Rajah had shewn the sincerity of his professions, by seizing and delivering up GAMUT BHARTEE, one of the principal rebels in *Chutteesgurh*, who had sought refuge in the lands of a refractory dependent of the *Bustar* Rajah, from whom the Rajah was obliged to take him by force.

The engagements which were concluded with the whole of the *Zemindars*, by Colonel Agnew, under directions from the Resident, were framed on the general principle, that whilst no unnecessary sacrifice of the revenue or rights of the government should be made, a liberal system should be pursued towards them, it being considered of much more consequence, in the actual state of the country, to reconcile and attach these tributaries to the new order of things, than by endeavoring to gain an inconsiderable financial benefit, or by stretching a doubtful prerogative, incur the risk of exciting discontent amongst them, or rendering it necessary to coerce them, in parts of the country unfavorable to the prosecution of military operations.

In

In *Bustar*, no attempt was made to put new restrictions on the Rajah, in regard to the exercise of unlimitted power in judicial matters, or in the *Sayer* collections. But the other *Zemindars* came under engagements, by which they were bound to abstain from capital punishments, to submit to the awards of the Superintendent, in cases of appeal from their own decisions, to make good all losses sustained by travellers in passing through their *Zemindarees*, or to deliver up the thieves. They also formally renounced a right, which several of them had usurped, of making *Sayer* collections, which it was found necessary to take into our own hands, in order that the interests of commerce might not suffer from the irregular and exorbitant demands to which goods were subjected, in passing through the *Zemindarees*. On this account, however, they received a remission, by way of compensation, to which, indeed, they were not strictly entitled.

It having been found that most of the *Zemindars* owed large balances, arising either from accumulation of the fixed tribute, or from extra demands of the government, which they had been unable to meet, a strict investigation was instituted with regard to the origin of these arrears, and the means of payment possessed by the *Zemindars*. The result was the remission of nearly the whole amount, principally on account of the utter inability of the *Zemindars* to liquidate them.

In *Bustar*, the arrears (the amount of which was never ascertained correctly) were altogether remitted.

The *Zemindars* of *Chutteesgurh* proper, and *Kondwan*, owed forty three thousand, three hundred and twenty-three rupees, of which twenty seven thousand, three hundred and six rupees was remitted; ten thousand, two hundred and three rupees to the Rajah of *Kuronde* alone. The arrears of the *Khalatee Zemindars*, of which those of *Khyragurh* and *Nandgaon* owed five

five-sixths, amounted to three lacs, thirty thousand, seven hundred and thirteen rupees, of which three lacs, twenty one thousand, six hundred and ninety-six was remitted, besides two thousand, three hundred and sixty-two to the *Zemindars* of *Cowardah* and *Punderah*, making the total remissions three lacs, fifty seven thousand, three hundred and sixty-five rupees.

The tribute of *Bustar* was nominally ten thousand rupees, but as it was payable in *Cowries*, the value of which was subject to constant variation, it was considered desirable to commute it to a payment in silver, and five thousand rupees being considered a fair equivalent, it was fixed at that amount, and a remission of one-fifth allowed, whilst *Kotepal* and its dependencies are separated from *Bustar*, a stipulation which is explained in the Resident's letter to the Marquis of Hastings, No. 41, of the 15th June, 1821.

The tributes of the *Zemindars* of *Chutteesgurh* and *Kondwan* were reduced from seventeen thousand, one hundred and thirty-three, to thirteen thousand, four hundred and thirty-two rupees, and those of *Khullottee* from one hundred and seven thousand, seven hundred and eighty five, to ninety one thousand, nine hundred and thirty-nine rupees.

Copies of the engagement concluded with the Rajah of *Bustar*, and of the general one entered into with the other *Zemindars* are already before Government;* and a satisfactory proof of the wisdom of the measures pursued towards them, will probably be recognized in the state of constant and undisturbed tranquillity, in which the whole of that part of the country has now so long remained.

Chanda.

The country in the hands of the *Zemindars*, under the district of *Chanda*, lies to the east of the *Wyne Gunga*, and stretches along its eastern bank, after its junction with the river *Wurda*, at *Sewny Sungum*, in a southerly direction, towards the confluence of the united rivers with the *Godavery* at *Kaleshwur*, about seventy miles below the former point. The

* Enclosures, Nos. 1 and 2, in the Resident's dispatch. No. 41, to the Marquess of Hastings.

lands of these *Zemindars* do not, however, quite reach the *Godavery*, a narnarrow stripe of country, on both banks of the latter, being under the government of *Hyderabad*. The *Yulmees*, who inhabit this part, have often proved turbulent and troublesome neighbours, although lately they have been pretty quiet. Their inroads, in former times, did great mischief on the west bank of the *Wyne Gunga*, about *Ghautkool* and *Dhuba*, from which the country is now recovering. The *Zemindaree* of *Bustar* reaches to the north bank of the *Godavery*, east of this tract.

From the southern extremity of the *Zemindaree* lands, at *Kaleshwur*, they stretch to the eastward and northward, until they join the *Bustar* country, the *Zemindarees* subject to *Chutteesgurh*, and the *Pergunnahs* of *Gurchirolee*, *Wyragurh*, and *Amgong*, belonging to *Chanda*.

The following are the names of the *Zemindars*, and the *Tuckoree*, or tribute, formerly, and that now paid.

Names of Zemindars.	Talooks.	*Former Tuckulee, or Tribute.*	*Present Tuckulee, or Tribute.*
Boojung Rao, ...	Aheree Soorjugar, ... Bomragur Vineshwur, ... Koperatee, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0
Venkut Rao, ...	Chumproba, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto, ...	Moolchora, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0
Rujusher Rao, ...	Ghotee, ...	500 0 0	25 0 0
Veroo Shah, ...	Powee, ...	40 0 0	10 0 0
Wugroo Shah, ...	Gilgowm, ...	72 8 0	10 0 0
Muhooroo Putel, ...	Sotegowm, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0
Venkut Rao, ...	Peetala, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0
Inder Shah, ...	Chandala, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0
Sonder Khan, ...	Gewurdha, ...	577 12 6	30 0 0
Eshwunt Rao, ...	Rangee, ...	238 0 0	12 0 0
Nizam Shah, ...	Pulebarsu and	0 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto, ...	Moorumgaom, ...	533 4 3	25 0 0
Neelkunt Shah, ...	Ambugur, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0
...	Choukey, ...	512 9 0	25 0 0
Budroo Takoor, ...	Danora, ...	50 0 0	5 0 0
Suba Dao, ...	Koracha, ...	125 0 0	10 0 0
Govind Shah, ...	Putusgur, ...	600 0 0	30 0 0
Marsoo Takoor, ...	Malewara, ...	0 0 0	3 0 0
Gunesh Rae, ...	Jurapapra, ...	0 0 0	3 0 0
Neerun Shah, ...	Korgull, ...	15 0 0	3 0 0
Wugroo Shah, ...	Kootgaom, ...	60 0 0	6 0 0
Meer Bux Allee, ...	Bakroonde, ...	0 0 0	0 0 0
Chundew Shah, ...	Sinsirry, ...	100 0 0	215 4 0
	... ... Total, ...	3424 1 9	412 4 0
Kulloo, ...	Leku, ...	0 0 0	3 0 0
Difference, 3006 13 9			

The

The tribute due by these *Zemindars*, was scarcely an object to the government, whilst it bore hard upon their slender means and irregular habits. It was, accordingly, deemed better to reduce it in some cases, and in others to remit it altogether. Like the people of the same class in other parts of the country, they were very troublesome at first, but the activity of our detachments, and the vigilance with which their attacks were directed by Captain Crawfurd, never allowed them a moments respite whilst they continued in arms, and when they submitted, they were treated with every kind of indulgence, which, indeed, has not been thrown away, as they have, since 1819, been quiet and orderly.

They all gave written agreements on their submission to the following effect, viz. They agree not to protect thieves; to make good to travellers any loss they may sustain from robberies in their *Zemindarees*, and to furnish from three to twenty men, according to the several agreements of each, when called on by the *Sircar*.

Very little is ascertained respecting the tract occupied by these *Zemindars*. It is, however, generally described as a wild mountainous country, mostly covered with jungle, and there appears to be no great hope of being able to form through it, an easy communication with the coast. In consequence of the heavy and vexatious duties levied in the *Nizam's* country, on the south bank of the *Godavery*, *Bunjarrees*, *&c.* sometimes take the northern route to the coast; but they state the road to be so difficult, from the constant beds of mountain-torrents, and steep and narrow passages, as to render what they save in duties, nearly lost by the additional time and labor, though the duties are not above a third of what they pay, by *Palooncha*, on the south bank. The distance from *Chanda* to *Rajmundree*, by the north bank, is about three hundred and twenty miles.

The

Deogurh above the Ghaut.

The *Gond Zemindars*, or *Thakoors* of this district, are JESWUNT SAH of *Hurrye;* KESHO RAO, of *Bhutragurh;* RAJAHJEE, of *Raeerhera*, MOHUN SING of *Puchmuree;* PERTAUB SING, of *Pugarah;* RAJBA, of *Almoat;* and TURWUR SAH, of *Bhurdagurh;* besides two petty *Thakoors* of *Bandhee Mothur* and *Goruk Ghaut*, and SONY SAH, the son of CHYNE SAH; the former usurper of *Hurrye*, to whom *Sonepore* has been assigned.

These *Thakoors* occupy all the most mountainous portion of *Deogurh*, and have been always in a kind of feudal subjection, first to the *Gond Rajahs*, and since to the *Marhattas*. The unproductiveness of the hills and forests, and the natural strength of the country, preserved these chiefs from entire subjection to the *Marhattas*, who, however, possessed themselves of the most accessible parts, and whose policy it generally was to support one of the most powerful of them, to keep the rest in check, and to be responsible for the depredations they were always in the habit of committing on the neighboring plains. CHYNE SAH, of *Hurrye*, who, from his superiority of talents and energy, had been able to usurp the authority of his nephew JUSWUNT SAH, was the usual instrument employed; but although this system, if regularly followed up, might have answered the end in view, to a certain extent, yet the continued deviations from it, on every momentary prospect of gratifying the rapacious spirit of the Government and its agents, sometimes the collusion of the principal civil and military authorities, with the other *Gond* chiefs, and sometimes their contumacy, when either pressed beyond their forbearance, or led to take advantage of momentary circumstances favorable to resistance, perpetuated the disorders, which nothing but skilful and steady management could have eradicated.

Amongst these chiefs, APPAH SAHIB took refuge, on his escape from the escort which was conveying him to *Allahabad*. The situation chosen for

for his retreat, whether from its accidental vicinity to the point from which he effected his escape, or from a previous understanding with the *Gond* chiefs, was well calculated from its inaccessible nature, for the immediate purpose of security from pursuit, and not less advantageous, as a centrical position for disturbing the new government, communicating with foreign powers, and forming a rallying point for military adventurers from all quarters. The table land of *Puchmurree*, the place of his residence for several months, is situated in the midst of a cluster of mountains, celebrated for the temple, or rather cave of *Mahadeo*, which is on one of the highest of seven peaks, and looking down on the fertile valley of the *Nerbudda*, and on that of *Baitool* and *Mooltaee*, the recent cessions to the British government, and on the reserved territory of the Rajah of *Nagpore*, above the *Ghauts*. Until APPAH SAHIB's flight from this place of refuge, the *Gond* chiefs maintained an unbroken union amongst themselves in his defence, notwithstanding the advantageous offers that were made to induce them to abandon him. This conduct, so contrary to what might have been expected from their perpetual state of hostility with the *Marhattas*, proceeded partly from a rude sense of generous hospitality, not uncommon in wild tribes, and partly from the love of plunder, and the ignorance of our real character, distorted by the misrepresentation of our enemies.

The complete success of our military operations in the hills, when the season admitted of the troops entering them, soon put every one of the *Gond* chiefs in our power; most of them voluntarily surrendered themselves, but the capture of CHYNE SAH, by Major O'Brien, who pursued him into the depths of a tremendous chasm, may be said to have finished the campaign.

In deliberating on the different courses of policy, that might be pursued towards the mountaineers, it appeared that the attempt to govern

 them,

them, through the agency of one chief, had never succeeded, and had rather tended to throw too great a degree of power into hands, which had abused it, than to secure an influence to be exerted for the general tranquillity. There were, in fact, several considerable families amongst them, each wishing to be considered the head of the whole. All had resisted, with more or less success, the establishment of one authority, and the *Marhattas* had been frequently compelled to act directly, not only against the other refractory chiefs, but against the chief of their own elevation. It seemed therefore to be a preferable system to attach those amongst them, who were of any consequence, by direct ties to the paramount state, and to strengthen their natural influence over their immediate relations and dependents, by giving them authority to restrain them, and making them responsible for their conduct.

On this principle, the lands and rights of each of the *Thakoors* were confirmed to them by *Sunnud*, with some exceptions, of which the necessity has been formerly explained.*

All these *Zemindars* were miserably poor, and, under the bad management of the *Marhattas*, they had lived almost entirely upon plunder, neglecting the cultivation of their own lands, and maintaining bodies of armed men, foreigners, as well as *Gonds*, which nothing but plunder could enable them to support. To wean them from these habits, by leading them to look to honest means for their subsistence, it was first necessary to shew them that they could no longer prey upon their neighbors with impunity, and this impression was fully made by the result of our operations in the hills. They required funds for their immediate support, as well as to form the ground-work of the agricultural labours, but these it was

* See the Resident's dispatches, Nos. 38, 39, and 40, to the Marquess of Hastings.

requisite

requisite to furnish, with a sparing hand, for fear of inducing too great a reliance on sources of supply, foreign to their own exertions. Yet it was just and prudent to relieve them from embarrassments, which could not but be discouraging to them at the outset, and which had their origin in previous circumstances, though aggravated considerably by physical evils, beyond our or their control.

The HURRYE family had formerly been in a state of considerable affluence, and, consequently, in principles of policy, required a more liberal allowance than the others. The *Sayer* revenue, which had been their chief emolument, having been resumed by Government, presented a just source of provision for their wants, without burthening the Government with an extraneous payment.

The *Purgunnah* of *Pertaubgurh* was given to the son of RAJBA SAH, who had held it under CHYNE SAH, and the management of it left to the HURRYE family. From the weakness of JESWUNT SAH, the head of it, the affairs of this family have not been well conducted, and though we have had no reason to complain of their general conduct, they have got involved in debt, and still lean too much upon us for pecuniary support.

SONY SAH, the son of CHYNE SAH, who died of Cholera at *Chanda*, shortly after his capture, was also provided for separately, by restoring to him the district of *Sonepore*, which he had formerly held from his father. This young man has behaved uncommonly well; he has done much to restore cultivation in his lands, and he has been an active assistant in the Police.

KERHO RAO, of *Bhutkagurh*, from his relationship to the *Gond* Rajah, was always in attendance on the *Marhatta Soobahdars* of the province. His

His duties were continued, and it was requisite, besides confirming his lands to him, to provide some additional allowances for him. He, at first, distinguished himself with SONY SAH, in suppressing the freebooters, who continued for a time to molest, both the reserved and ceded territories; but he has shewn several times a spirit of violence and disobedience of orders, which have brought him into temporary disgrace.

The *Zemindars* of the *Mahadeo* hills, who were the *Bhoftas*, or hereditary heads of the temple, are MOHUN SING, RAJAHJEE, and PERTAUB SING. The pilgrim tax having been resumed by the government, it was found necessary to grant them some fixed allowances out of it. Certain claims also of the *Thakoors* of *Bhurdugurh* and *Almoat*, on pilgrims passing through their lands, in progress to the temple, were also allowed.

Translations of the written agreements concluded with these tributaries, were forwarded to government* shortly after the settlements were all effected by Captain Montgomerie. By the general terms of them, the *Thakoors* are bound to attend the chief local authority, when required, with a specified number of followers; they are held responsible for the tranquillity and good management of their estates, and rendered amenable for all criminal acts committed within their lands, being obliged to give up the culprit, or trace his exit from their lands, or otherwise be personally answerable.

The following summary of the result of his management of the hill *Thakoors*, is given by Captain Montgomerie, and it is very satisfactory.

"In conclusion, I have only to add, that those hilly and moun-

* The Residents dispatch, No. 39, dated 3d September, 1819.

tainous

tainous tracts held by the *Gond* tributaries; where murder and theft were neither accounted criminal or sinful; through which, before our management, no individual of respectability could pass in safety, if at all; from which hordes of banditti used to be poured down on the fertile valleys of the *Nerbudda*, of *Baitool*, the *Huwelee* lands, and of *Seonee*, to plunder and distress its more peaceful inhabitants, to drive their herds, to sack and burn their villages, are now the abode of comparative contentment and industry; there, indeed, may truth, confidence, and satisfaction, assure you that a great change has been effected. Population has been partially restored, and is gradually increasing; no stranger or traveller has fallen a victim for six years, to the cupidity of the lawless freebooters; no complaint has been made against the inhabitants, by my neighbors, of the Honorable Company's Territory, who are on three sides of me; cultivation is improving, comfort is evident among them, and they profess openly their preference of the life they now lead, to that from which I had little hope of ever winning them."

PART V.

GENERAL RESULTS AND PROSPECTS RELATIVE TO THE REVENUE AND FINANCIAL ABSTRACT.

Comparative amount of revenue.

IN order to compare the collections from the several branches of revenue under our administration, with those of the former government, a statement of the receipts in each of the seven years of our management and in those of the preceding ones for the same term, is here subjoined.

A General Comparative Statement of the amount collected from the principal branches of Revenue in the Districts of Nagpore, for Seven Years, under Marhatta and British Administration.

Marhatta.						British.					
Years.	*Land Revenue.*	*Saeer.*	*Sewaee and Pandree.*	*Kullalee.*	*Total.*	*Years.*	*Land Revenue.*	*Saeer.*	*Sewaee and Pandree.*	*Kullalee.*	*Total.*
1220	36,60,831	2,66,375	2,66,673	46,134	42,40,013	1228	29,24,352	3,92,375	1,48,091	38,768	35,03,586
1221	36,30,125	2,64,496	2,27,006	47,830	41,69,457	1229	59,34,794	3,77,358	86,880	36,481	34,35,514
1222	34,99,035	2,70,692	2,26,788	46,755	40,43,210	1230	31,80,052	4,11,429	1,07,204	51,776	37,50,461
1223	35,26,421	2,73,991	2,27,229	45,646	40,73,287	1231	33,57,273	4,56,754	1,03,651	50,108	39,67,786
1224	34,27,299	2,71,296	2,25,166	39,083	39,62,844	1232	34,55,792	4,17,053	1,09,514	50,765	40,33,124
1225	33,52,929	2,74,783	2,15,341	39,426	38,82,479	1233	34,26,903	3,74,135	96,775	52,681	39,50,494
1226	33,91,930	2,85,310	2,12,199	41,515	39,30,954	1234	33,92,203	4,46,593	98,871	64,320	40,01,987
Total,	2,44,88,570	19,06,883	16,00,402	3,06,389	2,83,02,244	Total,	2,26,71,370	28,75,697	7,50,986	3,44,899	2,66,42,952

As the amount of some part of the collections under the Marhattas could not be ascertained, it was necessary, for the purpose of comparison, that a corresponding omission should be made from our collections, which will account for the sums entered in the statement not corresponding with those shewn in the general account.

During the three first years of our management, the land revenue fell greatly short of former years' collections, and the causes of the decrease have already been noticed as lying in the disturbed state of the country, unpropitious seasons, and the effects of these evils after their existence had ceased.

For the last three or four years, however, the total of our collections appears equal to what was realized by the former administration for some years previous to the transfer; but there can be but little doubt that the amount now taken from the people, still continues to fall short of what it was formerly, as large sums, in the way of undue exactions, used to be collected, which never reached the coffers of the state. We must have recourse to this circumstance, and to that of the assessment being more carefully apportioned, to explain the fact, that, although the price of grain has greatly fallen, the land revenue has continued to encrease, at the same time that the *Putels* and *Ryuts* are obviously improving in their general circumstances, and recovering from the load of debt which had accumulated upon them under the former government.

Their condition also has, doubtless, been ameliorated in common with the rest of the inhabitants, in consequence of the general tranquillity of the country, and the more complete protection afforded to private property.

It will be observed, that in 1234 *Fusslee*, a small diminution in the land revenue took place; this was occasioned by remissions, it was found expedient to make in the rice districts to the eastward, where a general failure of that crop arose from a deficiency of rain, and the same cause has occasioned the same result in the present year; but in *Deogurh* below the *Ghauts*, where the evil was not felt, the assessment of 1235, which is higher than in any former year since it has been under our management, has been realized with the greatest facility within the year.

Had

Had we aimed at increased revenue only, it is probable we could have raised, without much difficulty, the highest amount ever paid to the former government; but it must have been with the sacrifice of those equitable and considerate principles, on which alone a hopeof future prosperity could be founded.

In regard to further increase in the land revenue, no considerable or rapid rise can reasonably be expected; the want of a vent for grain from this country, must always prove a considerable bar to its agricultural prosperity; its own population, however, is rapidly increasing, which it is to be hoped, will prevent prices falling so much as to materially or permanently affect the existing assessments; and an extension in the cultivation of cotton, sugar-cane, &c., which may be expected to take place, will tend to keep them up to, if not, to carry them beyond the present standard.

The improvement in the *Sayer* arises as well from the greater proportion of the collections which reaches the exchequer than formerly, as from the increase and improvement in the general condition of the people. Foreign trade has fallen off with respect to those articles, which were chiefly in demand at the court of Nagpore, and the collections on account of it are very small in proportion to the whole amount; a great reduction has also been occasioned by the abolition of the transit duty on grain; hence the increase must be very much owing to the general increase of the internal trade and consumption of articles of home produce and manufactures.

The diminution in the *Sewaee* collections is the consequence, in part, of the abolition of some of the most oppressive taxes, but chiefly of our principles not admitting of unjust and oppressive fines, which formerly were included in this branch of the revenue.

An

General Financial abstract.

An annual account of the receipts and disbursements of the Nagpore state has been regularly sent to the Supreme Government, with explanatory statements relative to their contents. Complete lists of the civil and military establishments were also forwarded, when first settled, and notices of any alteration in their amount have been, from time to time, submitted. A present state of these establishments will be sent in with the accounts for 1235 *Fusslee*, and it may therefore suffice to introduce, as a conclusion to this branch of the report, the following general abstract, which exhibits, at one view, the general financial situation of the government, for the whole period of our management.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS.

Years.	*Cash on hand on assuming Charge of the Government.*	*Arrears of former Years Collected in 1228.*	*Amount of Land Revenue.*	*Amount of Sayer.*	*Amount of Oobarree of Zemindars.*	*Amount of City Duties and Miscellaneous Taxes.*	*Amount of Miscellaneous Receipts.*	*Total.*	*Remarks.*
1228	4,58,567 11 3	1,94,201 9 4	29,34,597 12 0	3,67,375 7 0	2,41,018 2 1	4,55,488 1 3	8,78,167 6 7½	55,29,416 1 6½	
1229	0 0 0	0 0 0	30,82,249 5 1½	3,77,359 1 0	2,65,381 5 3	4,25,646 14 6½	8,51,729 15 11½	50,02,366 9 10½	
1230	0 0 0	0 0 0	32,89,683 15 6½	4,11,433 5 0	2,80,275 8 11	4,19,453 13 3	14,37,764 9 5½	58,38,611 4 1¾	
1231	0 0 0	0 0 0	35,52,796 0 8¾	4,56,755 15 3	2,76,656 9 9	3,75,857 5 4¾	1,00,864 11 11½	47,62,930 11 1	
1232	0 0 0	0 0 0	36,68,036 10 4¾	4,42,655 0 2	2,74,190 1 3¼	3,92,449 1 7	25,205 9 7¾	48,02,536 7 0¾	
1233	0 0 0	0 0 0	36,25,025 6 7¾	4,20,614 15 8¾	2,72,215 7 9	4,13,669 1 1	25,340 5 5	47,56,865 4 7½	
1234	0 0 0	0 0 0	35,89,323 11 9¾	4,69,962 8 10	2,70,217 6 3	4,17,996 10 7¾	15,317 11 9¾	47,62,818 1 4¼	Includes the Arrears Collected in 1235.
Total,	4,58,567 11 3	1,94,201 9 4	2,37,71,712 14 2¾	29,46,156 4 11¾	18,79,954 9 3¼	29,00,560 15 9	33,34,390 6 10	3,54,55,544 7 7¾	

STATEMENT of DISBURSEMENTS.

Years.	*Payment of Debts and Arrears of Pay due on our assuming Charge.*	*Amount appropriated for the support of the Gond Rajah.*	*Amount of Jageers and Pensions.*	*Amount of Payment in support of Religious Establishments.*	*Amount of Expenses of H. H. the Rajas Household Establishments.*	*Amount of Expenses of management and Extraordinary Civil Charges.*	*Amount of Fixed and Extraordinary Military Charges.*	*Indefinite Charges.*	*Total.*	*Remarks.*
1228	2,62,081 10 0	1,00,440 10 6	2,20,429 5 6	71,102 11 3	12,15 817 12 5½	9,28,946 10 0½	13,43,965 2 11	2,68,054 13 11¼	44,10,838 12 7	
1229	0 0 0	1,09,619 10 6	2,20,452 15 2	81,898 5 6	13,12,461 4 6	8,65,317 7 3	18,52,257 3 0½	5,34,126 5 4	49,76,133 3 3½	
1230	0 0 0	1,10,409 0 0	2,03,196 12 1	89,737 5 3	12,15,246 3 11	7,33,896 5 10½	17,17,404 12 9¾	9,04,352 4 1¼	49,74,243 6 0¼	
1231	0 0 0	1,11,595 9 8	2,08,976 15 1	89,962 6 9½	11,67,553 1 11	7,01,309 3 10	17,20,190 8 7¾	1,55,637 0 7¾	41,55,224 14 0½	
1232	0 0 0	1,13,143 8 0	2,16,339 3 0	84,374 7 7½	11,48,779 12 0	7,41,248 5 9½	18,91,056 0 7½	10,08,233 5 10½	52,03,174 10 4½	
1233	0 0 0	1,14,992 8 10½	2,17,249 0 1½	85,027 14 1½	10,50,000 0 0	7,95,741 5 5½	19,32,403 5 9½	1,81,706 7 2½	43,77,120 9 6	
1234	0 0 0	1,16,740 3 11½	2,18,123 2 4	85,541 0 6¾	12,50,000 0 0	8,13,954 13 8½	18,90,229 2 3½	89,571 13 9	44,64,159 10 7	
Total,	2,62,081 10 0	7,76,941 3 1	15,04,767 5 3¾	5,87,644 3 1	83,59,858 2 9½	55,80,414 3 4¾	1,23,47,506 4 1	31,41,682 2 10	3,25,60,895 2 6½	

From this statement, it appears that the total amount of receipts during these years was, three hundred and fifty-four lacs, fifty-five thousand, five hundred and forty-four rupees, seven annas, and seven and three quarter pies; whilst that of disbursements, three hundred and twenty-five lacs, sixty thousand, eight hundred and ninety-five rupees, two annas and six an a half pies, being a balance of twenty-eight lacs, ninety-four thousand, six hundred and forty-nine rupees, five annas, and one an a quarter pies, in favor of the Government. To arrive at the true result of our management, however, it is necessary to throw out of both sides of the account, certain sums noted in the margin, after which rectification the amount of receipts is, three hundred and twenty-five lacs, thirty-seven thousand, two hundred and thirty-seven rupees, two annas, and seven and three quarter pies, and of disbursments, three hundred and twelve lacs, fifty-nine thousand, six hundred and three rupees, five annas, and nine and three quarter pies, leaving a balance of twelve lacs, fifty-seven thousand, six hundred and thirty-three rupees, twelve annas and ten pies, which is the absolute gain on the seven years of our management; and which, considering the exhausted and disturbed state of the country, when it fell into our hands, and that, during the famine, nearly two lacs of rupees were expended on public works, for supporting the poor, will probably be considered as satisfactory a result as could have been expected: at the same time it is proper to observe, that had it not been deemed expedient to give up the control over the expenditure of the court and household, which was originally exercised, the result in favor of our management would, doubtless, have exhibited, a surplus at least double of the amount which is shewn by the above account.

To be deducted from the RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand on assuming charge,	4,58,567	11	3
Arrears of former years,	1,94,201	9	4
Government property sold,	22,65,538	1	4
Rs.	29,18,307	5	0

To be deducted from the DISBURSEMENTS.

Debts and arrears of Pay due on assuming charge,	2,62,081	10	0
Arrears of Subsidy due by APPAH SAHIB,	3,75,000	0	0
Purchase of captured Elephants,	1,00,000	0	0
Chanda donation to the troops,	3,07,633	8	2½
Remuneration to the troops for losses at the battle of Seetabuldee,	2,55,576	10	6
Rs.	13,01,291	12	8½

SECTION SEVENTH.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE AND POLICE.

Marhatta system.

BEFORE proceeding to describe the mode in which justice is now administered, it will be proper to notice the system which formerly existed.

Under the *Marhattas*, there were no regularly constituted courts of justice, with the exception of one in the city of Nagpore, for the trial of petty offences, established by MOODHOJEE BHOSLAH, in 1776, and in which a Moossulman presided.

Civil Justice.

The Rajah, in person, *Kumaishdars*, and *Putels*, were the authorities administering decisions, which, in civil suits, were not generally regulated by any written law, or even by customs well understood or adhered to; but principally by the opinion or partiality of the judge. The Mahommedan law was administered to Moossulmans, and the Hindoo written law of inheritance, as interpreted by the principal *Shastrees* about the court, seems to have been generally resorted to, in disputes affecting succession amongst the Hindoos. In the punishment of criminals, too, certain general rules were usually adhered to, unless particular reasons occasioned a departure from them.

Laws and authorities.

There

There were no rules fixing the jurisdiction of the several judicial authorities; cases of minor importance naturally fell into the hands of subordinate functionaries, whilst those of greater consequence were decided by the higher powers.

Suits, involving above one thousand rupees, generally came before the Rajah, who either decided them himself, or referred them for adjustment to a *Punchayut*.

Kumaishdars, in their judicial proceedings, were assisted by the *Phurnaveese*, *Berar Pandia*, and head *Putels* of their districts, if they chose to call on them for their attendance. They sometimes decided suits themselves, and sometimes referred them to *Punchayuts*, whose awards were enforced by their authority.

Jaghiredars, within the limit of their *Jaghires*, exercised the same authority as the *Kumaishdars*, and often assumed even more.

Putels did not decide civil suits, their power being confined to the assembling of courts of arbitration.

Appeals, by petition, might be made to the Rajah, from the decisions of all inferior authorities.

Fees.

In consequence, however, of the enormous expence attending civil suits, but little litigation was carried on before the government, or its servants. The great fees on all suits were the *Sookrana*, or one-fourth of the sum awarded, or recovered, which was paid to the government by the person in whose favor the award was given; and an equal amount in *Zureemana*, or fine paid by the person cast. The next was the *Bhat Musala*,

or the fee paid to the *Kumaishdar*, to defray the expense of summoning the defendant, which was generally from five to ten rupees. Besides this, the person summoned had to support the man who served the summons; this was called *Roz*, and *Khorak;* which was a daily allowance of two, three, or four anas, besides food. When a summons was issued by the Rajah, horsemen, or camel *Hirkaras* were sent, and their allowance was much more expensive, amounting, sometimes, to twenty, thirty, or forty rupees per diem.

On account of these practices, the people generally endeavored to settle their disputes without the intervention of the government authorities, and the institutions and practice of the country enabled them to do so with facility.

Mahajuns and *Seteyahs.*

In each village there was a *Mahajun*, or arbitrator, chosen by the *Putels* and *Ryuts* jointly. This office, sometimes, descended from father to son, but was never considered hereditary. The *Mahajun* settled all disputes between the *Putels*, and amongst the *Ryuts*, as far as was in his power. He was always a *Marhatta Hoinbee*, and, in general, decided all disputes of cast amongst that class. The lower classes, such as *Tilees*, *Koshtees*, *Burdhans*, *&c.* had particular heads of casts, called *Seteyahs*, to whom cases of cast were referred. If their decisions were not satisfactory, a *Punchayut* of *Seteyahs* was called, whose award was generally final. These disputes were occasionally referred to the Rajah, but not often. Both *Mahajuns* and *Seteyahs* had some trifling advantages, but nothing defined; they were always persons of considerable consequence in their respective communities.

Punchayuts.

Punchayuts were assembled to decide all kinds of civil cases. The most common subjects of litigation were, succession to property, boundaries, trespasses

trespasses of cattle, advances by *Putels* and *Sahookars*, non-performance of contracts, &c. The *Punchayuts* were assembled in villages by *Putels*. They were open to all who chose to attend them. There was no fixed place for them to meet, but the *Chubootra*, or terrace of the *Mahadeo*, near the villages, was generally selected, as giving the sanctity of an oath, to any thing that might be transacted there. The most respectable inhabitants of the village were chosen members of the *Punchayut*, without reference to cast or profession. The *Putel* generally named the members, but if any of them were objected to, they were changed. Sometimes each party chose an equal number, and another was chosen mutually. The parties, previously to the commencement of the proceedings, were asked, whether they were willing to abide by the decision of the *Punchayut*. If they agreed, the proceedings went on. In cases of much importance, or when the parties were known to be litigious, a written *Razeenamah* was exacted.

The proceedings of a village *Punchayut* were rarely recorded. The plaintiff and his witnesses were first heard and examined, then the defendant and his. The evidences and friends of both parties were allowed to be present during the investigation, and they often interfered. Much confusion arose, and the decision was frequently carried by acclamation. Sometimes the proceedings continued for several days. The plaintiff, if a man of wealth, provided victuals, betel, tobacco, &c. for the members. It was not unusual amongst the *Gonds*, and other low casts, to introduce intoxicating liquors, when disgraceful scenes sometimes took place.

Punchayuts, assembled by the higher authorities, were conducted with more regularity, and the proceedings were written, and referred for confirmation. The witnesses were kept separate during examination, and no interference was permitted with the members. It was the business of the person,

person, under whose authority the *Punchayut* was assembled, to see the decision carried into effect.

In this place, it may not be irrelevant to notice two modes of settling boundary disputes, that fertile subject of village litigation, which obtain in this part of the country. The first is, if either party agrees to perform, what is called *Emaun*, they proceed as follows. The *Kotwar* of the village takes a bundle of grass from the field, whose boundaries are disputed, or the fresh skin of a cow or bullock, in presence of the *Putels* and *Ryuts* of both villages, places it on his head, and then walks along the boundaries, making a solemn declaration, that he will point out the true limits. It is then settled, that if the *Putel*, whose *Kotwar* performed the *Emaun*, loses any part of his property, such as a bullock, cow, &c. within a certain number of days, (generally about a month) the *Emaun* is false, and the decision is in favor of his opponent. In *Berar*, the *Putel* himself performs the ceremony. The other mode is a simple resort to chance. The names of two deities are inscribed on some substance, and put in a vessel; in drawing them out, if a particular one, previously specified, comes first, the claim is considered just, or vice versa.

Criminal Justice—Laws by whom administered.

The Rajah, in person, or the *Kumaishdars*, administered criminal justice. *Putels* of villages imposed small fines for the minor offences; but all of any consequence were referred to the officers of government. It has been observed already, that, although punishments were not awarded according to any written law, still certain general rules were usually acted on: a few of the most common shall be here mentioned.

House-breaking.

If the person whose house was broken into, could point out the offender, and identify the property of which he had been robbed, he recovered the latter with a deduction of one-fourth for the *Sircar*. The culprit was confined in irons, and all his goods confiscated.

When

When people were caught in the act of committing these crimes, the person robbed was often contented with giving the offender a few slaps on the face, or blows with a slipper. If the culprit was taken to the *Thannah*, he was flogged, and confined in the stocks for fifteen or twenty days, or a month, and if he could pay any thing, he was fined. Pilfering or Stealing small articles.

For the two offences above mentioned, persons might be punished in the manner described, ten times. If again convicted, they were mutilated, by cutting off their noses, hands or fingers.

Persons accused of this crime were generally put at once into a sort of pillory, which is erected near most villages; then flogged until they discovered the property plundered, and their accomplices. One-fourth of the property recovered, was taken by the government, if the public servants discovered the robber. If he was discovered by the person robbed, the whole property was restored to the latter. If, in addition to the robbery, a person was wounded, the culprit was generally mutilated; if murder had been committed, death was the award; otherwise flogging and confinement in the stocks were the usual punishments. On one occasion, in RUGHOJEE's reign, some years ago, several persons who had attacked and plundered a marriage procession, the outrage being also accompanied with murder, were blown away from guns. Gang Robbery.

It was a recognized principle to punish any one, except women and Bramins, who committed murder, with death; women, however, in aggravated cases of domestic murder, as of their husbands, were sometimes mutilated with the ons of their noses. It was, however, customary, in some cases, to allow of pecuniary compositions for murder; but it depended upon the relations of the deceased. The amount was three hundred and fifty rupees, to be paid to the heirs of the person murdered, and if Murder.

they accepted it, they gave a paper of release, or *Farighkhutee*, to the murderer; sometimes the property of the murderer was, besides, seized by government.

Fornication.

This crime was a great source of profit to the government, and the government servants. When a woman was discovered in the commission of this offence, she was brought to the *Thannah*, and there asked to name her paramours. All whom she accused were punished, "without further evidence being required," by heavy fines, part of which was carried to the account of government, and part generally taken by the officer, who imposed the fine. The woman was given over to her own caste, and punished according to their award.

Coining.

It was a usual punishment for coiners to have one of their hands crushed to pieces, with a blow from a heavy mallet or pestle.

Cheating and Swindling.

Persons guilty of these offences were flogged, imprisoned, and fined.

Police.

There was a large establishment of *Hirkaras*, scattered over the country, for obtaining information on all subjects, and the *Kumaishdars* of *Pergunnas*, as well as the *Putels* of villages, had ample means for preventing crimes, and apprehending offenders, had they been properly supported by their superiors, in this branch of their duty. Neither the prevention nor detection of offences was, however, prescribed, according to any fixed plan, emanating from, or connected with superior authority. Self defence kept the village community in some degree of alertness, as to violent attacks upon their property. On the other hand, the bad example set them by the late Rajah, was subversive of all regular police; and opposition to crime, became itself a crime. RUGHOJEE, and in this respect he was openly imitated by the members of his family, and secretly by many others,

others, kept gangs of robbers in employment, on the high roads, and in the principal towns, with a general commission to prey upon the community, and upon strangers. They were frequently directed to plunder particular individuals, whether in the city or country, whose wealth was coveted by their employers. Under such a system, the best way for officers of government, or individuals to shew their zeal, was to point out hidden sources, on which the depredations of the legalized robbers might be exercised, and it may easily be imagined, what a field for abuse of power, and for the gratification of every malignant feeling, such a state of things afforded to the vicious. Poverty and obscurity were the only safeguards; and when the constant depredations of *Pindarries* and *Gonds*, are added to the catalogue of the evils of general mis-rule, it is wonderful how the disorders, that were the consequence, should so little affect the general appearance of the society; how any of the operations of government could go on, or the people pursue their usual avocations, with so little thought of the insecurity which attended them. The majority, however, laboured for bare subsistence. Little specie was in circulation through the country, most of the trade was a mere barter of commodities, and wages were usually paid in kind; under these circumstances, and under the system of farming, in which most of the revenue was paid by *Sahookars*, at the capital, there was little elsewhere but raw produce, to tempt the cupidity of banditti. Trade and commerce, indeed, had almost disappeared, when the death of RUGHOJEE paved the way for the revolution of which the effects, in the departments of justice and police, are now to be estimated.

System under the British superintendency.

Civil Justice—City of Nagpore.

Shortly after our assuming charge, a court of justice was established at Nagpore for the decision of those suits arising within the limits of the city, which, under the former administration, would have been decided by the Rajah in person. It is composed of one of the Resident's assistants,

of

of GOOJABBA DADA, and another respectable native. It has an original jurisdiction in all cases regarding property personal or real, to the value of five hundred rupees and upwards, and appeals lie to it from the subordinate city court. All its decisions are appealable to the Resident, by petition.

The subordinate, or petty court, is under the general direction of the superintendent of police, a *Darogha* presides in it, who tries and decides, in the first instance, all causes coming before the court: from his decisions, an appeal lies to the superintendent of police, and from him to the superior city court. The jurisdiction of this court extends to all cases that do not involve property, real or personal, exceeding five hundred rupees in value, or in money transactions, where the principal does not exceed five hundred rupees, exclusive of interest.

The mode of procedure in this court is as follows: the person preferring a claim, presents a petition to the superintendent of police, who, if the cause comes within the cognizance of the court, orders it to be placed on the file for trial. It is then taken to the court, and filed, and a day is fixed for the trial, on which day, the plaintiff is directed to attend with his proof, and a summons of *Tullabnamah* is sent to the defendant, acquainting him with the name of the plaintiff, and the nature and amount of the suit instituted against him, and requiring him to attend with his witnesses on the day of trial, when a decision is given by the *Darogah*. If either party objects to this decision, the parties and proceedings are sent to the superintendent of police, who goes over the case again, and either confirms the original decree, or directs such further proceedings to be gone into, as the nature of the case, in each instance, may appear to require; when these further proceedings have taken place, they are again brought before him, and he passes judgment.

Witnesses

Witnesses are usually examined on oath, although this ceremony is occasionally dispensed with.

As the cases coming before the court, are mostly regarding simple contracts, but little recourse is had to *Punchayuts.* They are, however, sometimes appointed, when intricate accounts are to be examined, or a question regarding cost is to be decided.

The proceedings in the superior city court, may be thus described: the plaintiff presents a petition, which is read in court, and if the matter comes within its jurisdiction, it is entered on the file, and the petitioner is informed that due notice will be given to him, when his presence may be required to prosecute his claim; by this arrangement all unnecessary attendance on the part of the plaintiff is avoided, and he is not debarred from following his ordinary occupations longer than during the period his cause is actually undergoing investigation; a copy of the petition is sent to the person on whom the claim is made, with a summons to attend the court, and give in a reply; he is also required to give security for his attendance, when the cause may come on for trial; should he fail in doing so, an inferior officer of the court is attached to him; but in such cases, in order that he may not remain longer than may be absolutely necessary under such restraint, the cause in which he is implicated, is immediately investigated. When a cause comes on for trial, and the parties are in court, the plaintiff's petition, and the defendant's reply are read. It often occurs that the defendant admits the claim to be just, the plaintiff in such cases having petitioned for the sole purpose of availing himself of the authority of the court, to enforce the payment of his demands, or that his claims may be registered in the court to prevent effectually, or render nugatory, subsequent attempts on the part of the defendant, or his heirs, to invalidate or litigate the claim. Should the defendant, in his reply,

deny the justice of the claims made against him, the plaintiff is desired to produce his vouchers for substantiating it; if the case be a simple one, and can be proved by bonds or clear accounts, it is investigated and decided in court; but if the accounts are complicated and involved, the case is referred to a *Punchayut*, of which two members are chosen by the plaintiff, two by the defendant, and a fifth appointed by the court, who is, generally, a *Mootsuddy*, or other servant of government, and always selected from amongst those who, from their ordinary routine of business, are supposed most capable of comprehending the nature of the subject inquired into. Previously to the appointment of a *Punchayut*, both parties enter into an engagement, binding themselves to abide by the decision of the *Punchayut*, whatever it may be, and the member appointed by the court, or the *Sircar Pury*, as he is termed, is strictly enjoined to use the utmost diligence in causing a full investigation, and a speedy and equitable decision of the case, and to report, forthwith, any remissness in attending, or improper conduct that may occur on the part of any of the members of the *Punchayut*, or of the litigants concerned. When the *Punchayut* has come to a decision, a summary of the case, and their award, is drawn out, to which each of the members subscribes his name, and the **Fysul Nameh*, as it is then termed, is given into court by the *Sircar Pury*, accompanied by the other members of the *Punchayut*. The plaintiff and defendant also attending, the *Fysul Nameh* is then read aloud, and the members of the *Punchayut* are asked if such is the tenor of the decree to which they have affixed their signatures: if they reply in the affirmative, the plaintiff and the defendant are asked if they have any thing to say in arrest of judgment, and if they have not, the court orders its seal to be affixed to the *Fysul Nameh*, which confirms the award. If, however, either the plaintiff or defendant objects to the decision, on the plea of partiality or

* A translation of two *Fysulnamehs* are given in the Appendix, No. 4.

corruption

corruption on the part of any of the members of the *Punchayut*, the case is revised in court, the appellant entering into a penalty bond, to an amount at the option of the court, generally two per cent. on the total of the property in dispute, should he fail in substantiating his allegation against the *Punchayut*.

It sometimes occurs, that after the court has investigated and decided the suit, the losing party prays that it may be referred to the judgment of the *Punchayut*. Such petitions are always complied with, and the appellant, in such case, is not subject to fine in the event of the former decree being confirmed.

Civil Justice in the Country.

Civil justice in the country, is administered by the Superintendents, and the *Kumaishdars* of *Pergunnahs*.

Superintendents have an original jurisdiction, in all cases above three hundred rupees, and an appeal from all decisions of the *Kumaishdars*. Their mode of proceeding is almost exactly similar to that just described, as in force in the chief city court. They forward, in detail, and in English, their proceedings, in all cases involving a sum exceeding one thousand rupees, and an appeal from all their decisions lies, on petition, to the Resident. *Punchayuts* are extensively used by them; they are constituted, and their proceedings are regulated, in the same manner as those assembled under the authority of the city court.

The *Kumaishdars* have the power of deciding either personally, or by *Punchayut*, at the option of the parties, all causes to the amount of three hundred rupees; an appeal lies to the Superintendent in all cases that may have been decided by the *Kumaishdar* himself, and from such awards of *Punchayuts* as it can be shewn, were influenced by bribery or corruption; provided,

provided, however, in both cases, that the appeal is made before, or during the first visit of the Superintendent, after decision, to the *Purgunnah* in which such decision may have taken place.

Putels of villages have no power of hearing or deciding suits. They may, however, assemble *Punchayuts*, on the requisition of the parties, and it is also considered part of their duty, to exert themselves in settling every kind of dispute that may arise amongst the inhabitants of their villages. Of the proceedings of these *Punchayuts*, no records are kept, nor returns made, but all other civil suits, whether decided by the city court or by the Superintendents and *Kumaishdars*, or by *Punchayuts* authorized by them, are recorded, and reported every month to be Resident. From these reports the following statements have been prepared.

No. 1.

Years.	No. of Cases decided in the Principal City Court.		Total.	In favor of the Plaintiffs.	In favor of the Defendants.	No. of Cases decided in the Petty Civil Court.
	By the Court.	By Punchayuts.				
1819	33	6	39	18	21	296
1820	42	64	106	67	39	299
1821	174	94	268	112	156	402
1822	153	69	222	110	112	474
1823	140	29	169	87	82	496
1824	86	17	103	47	56	857
1825	51	10	61	39	22	1,368
Total,..	679	289	968	480	488	4,192

No. 2.

No. 2.

Years.	No. of Cases decided under the authority of the Superintendent.		Total.	In favor of the Plaintiff.	In favor of the Defendant.	No. of Cases decided under the authority of Kumaishdars.		Total.
	By the Superintendent.	By Punchayut.				By the Kumaishdars.	By Punchayuts.	
1823	81	99	180	148	32	1,684	879	2,563
1824	50	51	101	81	20	2,170	586	2,756
1825	92	30	122	114	8	1,182	567	1,749
Total, ..	223	180	403	343	60	5,036	2,032	7,068

No. 1, shews the number of civil causes that have been decided in the city courts for the last seven years; and No. 2, is a like statement of the judicial proceedings of the Superintendents and *Kumaishdars* for the last three years, for which period only, materials existed to form complete Tables.

As the tribunals are strictly courts of equity, recourse is seldom had to either Hindoo or Mahomedan codes of law, excepting in disputes regarding inheritance and partition of patrimony. Justice is administered with little or no expense, to either of the parties, beyond what may be incurred in journeying to the place where courts may be held. Fines, at the discretion of the principal court in the city, and of Superintendents, are imposed on individuals, preferring claims wholly unfounded. It was found necessary to adopt this regulation, owing to numerous suits being preferred, that, on investigtion, were found to be frivolous and vexatious, and brought forward solely for the purpose of harassing and annoying indivi-

duals at variance with the petitioner. This mode of curbing the spirits of the litigious and troublesome, has been highly successful, and few such suits are now filed. With a view, too, to accelerate the determination of *Punchayuts*, whose proceedings were often dilatory, in consequence of one of the parties wishing to retard a decision, a fine of one rupee for each day, that the matter may remain before a *Punchayut*, is levied from the party ultimately cast; and this measure also has been found to answer well the end for which it was intended.

Decrees are enforced generally, by an execution issued against the property of the person cast, and the sale of the whole, or as much of his property as will cover the debt, and in some cases, where the debtor is supposed to be possessed of money, but will not pay, he is confined in jail; but this alternative is, comparatively, of rare occurrence, as will be seen by the following extract, from the last returns.

Debtors in jail, in District *Deogurh*,	8
——— ditto,....ditto..... *Wyne Ganga*,	0
——— ditto,....ditto..... *Chuteesgurh*,	1
——— ditto,....ditto..... *Deogurh Balaghat*,	3
——— ditto,..in City of .. *Nagpore*,	27
Total,..	39

Debtors are subsisted by their creditors whilst in confinement; they are allowed to have free communication with the members of their families, and are treated with every reasonable consideration and indulgence. The term of confinement seldom exceeds twelve months, and then it is only in cases where fraud has been committed. The usual period of confinement,

finement, before a settlement is made with the creditors, is under one year.

In cases where, from the rank or condition of the debtor, the seizing and selling of his property would be considered derogatory to his situation in life, it has been usual merely to place a *Zabtee*, or restraint on his house or property, without proceeding any farther; and this course has generally been found efficacious in enforcing a liquidation of the debt.

General observations

It is very difficult to say to what extent the spirit of litigation exists in this part of the country. Conclusions drawn from the proportion of causes to the whole population, are likely to be fallacious; subjects for litigation are more or less frequent, in proportion to the state of advancement in civilization of society, to the density of the population, and to the degree of precision with which individual rights may be defined. Where justice is cheaply, speedily, and purely administered, numerous cases will be brought forward, but chiefly by those having real grievances to redress; whilst, on the other hand, they will be to the full as many, perhaps, but filed chiefly on false claims, when there is delay, expense, and corruption attending decisions. A somewhat better criterion, although by no means a satisfactory one, may possibly be found in the proportion of suits decided in favor of the plaintiffs, to the whole number adjudged; and it is worthy of notice, that whilst out of nine hundred and sixty-eight cases determined by the chief court in the city, no less than four hundred and eighty-eight, or upwards of one half, are in favor of the defendants; out of four hundred and three decided by the Superintendents, sixty only, that is little more than one-seventh, are in favor of the defendants.

This difference in the number of decisions in favor of defendants in the city, may be partly owing to the greater number of old claims brought forward,

forward, and not admitted, arising out of the military or civil transactions of past times, and partly to other circumstances, attending a crowded population, and the atmosphere of a court.

Punchayuts have been extensively employed. They are, no doubt, very liable to corruption, from the general want of moral rectitude in the people; but, at the same time, they are a most useful auxiliary in the administration of justice. It has been found generally, that their decisions are just and equitable, when the wealth and influence of the contending parties are nearly on a par; but when these preponderate on either side, the check, arising out of the scrutiny of a superior authority, is required to guard against injustice.

The above-described system appears to be adequate to the wants of the people; the total number of civil suits depending, at the end of the year 1825, being only sixty-eight before the Superintendents, and chief court in the city, and one hundred and twenty-five before the petty civil court. Under its operation, legal decisions may be obtained without expense, and without delay. The forms of the courts give little or no encouragement to one having a bad cause to litigate, in hopes that the law's delay, its charges, or its quibbles, may instal him in the rights of his neighbour. It might be a bad one, by which to administer a code of laws, with all its nice and artificial distinctions; but when the object is merely to secure rights, as they are considered to exist in local customs, or in the common understanding of equity, it ensures that end to no inconsiderable extent. If it possess not the advantages of a more regular system, it is free from some of its concomitant evils; besides, it is well adapted to the existing state of the society for whose benefit it is administered; it is quite on a level with their understandings, and, in no way, runs counter to their opinions, or jars on their prejudices.

The

Police.

In the City.

The existing Police establishment for the city, was organized in the year 1819: it is under the immediate orders of the Superintendent of Police, and consists of a corps of *Chuprassees*, or *Peons*, of the following strength, viz.

8 *Soobahdars.*	24 *Duffadars.*
40 *Naicks.*	800 *Chuprassees.*

This corps is divided into eight companies, each commanded by a *Soobahdar*, who has a writer to assist him in conducting the details, and preparing the accounts and reports of his company.

The companies are distributed throughout the city and environs, each *Soobahdar* having distinct charge of a district, and being held responsible for keeping the peace, preventing robberies, and giving protection to the orderly and well-disposed inhabitants, in their respective jurisdictions.

Each company furnishes several parties (from eight to ten each) which are stationed at guard-rooms, disposed in such a manner as is considered best adapted to prevent depredations, and give security to the public. From these detached guards, and also from the *Chowrees*, or head quarters of the companies, at which the *Soobahdars* constantly reside, patroles are sent, throughout the night, to take into custody any persons who may be found out in the streets after gun-fire, and to prevent the depredations of thieves and robbers.

This corps executes all the duties peculiarly appertaining to a Police establishment, and in addition, furnishes guards for the safe custody of the convicts in the jail, and for the protection of the public property at

 different

different civil and criminal courts in the city. It also provides guards for the convicts at labor, and other occasional guards are furnished from it for the protection of the palace, during the absence of the Rajah; and it has various other miscellaneous duties.

A daily report is furnished to the Superintendent, by each *Soobahdar*, of the occurrences which have happened in his district, during the preceding day. In this is contained a numerical abstract return of his company, shewing the manner in which the men are distributed and employed, and a detailed written statement of all extraordinary occurrences, as well as of the common events of the day.

All persons found fighting or quarrelling in the streets, or who may be charged with any breach of the peace, theft, robbery, or other crime, are, on being apprehended, taken, in the first instance, to the *Soobahdar* of the district in which the person is taken up, who enquires duly into the circumstance, and if of sufficient importance to require further investigation, forwards the party or parties to the police, or petty criminal court, with a written report of the circumstances of the case.

In the Country.

The *Kumaishdars*, acting under the several Superintendents, are entrusted with the police of their respective *Pergunnas*. They have under them, an establishment of *Seebundees*, who are stationed at the *Kusbas*, and other principal towns and villages.

Putels are the police officers, in their respective villages. They are held responsible for the inhabitants, whether permanent or temporary, as well as, under certain circumstances, for property plundered; they are bound to give immediate information to the *Kumaishdars*, of all offences, and are subject to penalties if they fail to do so, or to apprehend the offenders.

offenders. When aid is required to seize numerous or armed parties, it is readily obtained from the stations of the police *Seebundees*.

Monthly reports of police are furnished by the *Kumaishdars*, to the Superintendents, compiled from statements which are forwarded weekly or half monthly by the *Putels;* they include an account of unusual occurrences, of arrivals and departures, &c. besides which, special reports are furnished, on all occasions of importance, requiring the immediate notice of superior authority.

By this means, early and full information of all crimes and misdemeanors is obtained, at the same time that a great part of the duty of the police is left in the hands of an influential class of the people, whose co-operation is so essentially necessary to the due administration of this branch of government.

It has been found, that this co-operation is zealously and beneficially afforded, the additional trouble which the charge entails on the *Putels*, being cheerfully supported, in consideration of the increase to their respectability and influence, with which it is attended.

The instructions to avoid innovation, under which the Resident was acting, naturally led him to adopt this system, the basis of which was found already established throughout the country; but it possesses, besides, no inconsiderable intrinsic advantages, in the facility with which information is acquired, that could not be obtained, in an equal degree, by any separate police establishments the government could afford to support, and in the constant intercourse and intimate connexion it is the means of keeping up between the people and the government.

Criminal

Criminal Justice.

Criminal justice is administered in the city, by a subordinate court, under the Superintendent of Police, who acts both as a magistrate and a judge, and by the chief court, conducted by one of the Resident's assistants, already noticed; and in the country, by *Kumaishdars* and Superintendents.

The subordinate city court tries all offences within its jurisdiction, except murder and treason, which fall under the cognizance of the superior court.

Kumaishdars have the power of trying offences of a minor description; but cannot carry into effect, without the specific authority of the Superintendent, a sentence exceeding imprisonment for three days, a fine of ten rupees, or a corporal punishment of fifteen stripes.

Superintendents have authority to try all crimes, but no sentence extending to imprisonment for two years is inflicted, until confirmed by the Resident, and no execution of a capital sentence takes place, without a written order from the Rajah.

Monthly and annual registers of their own proceedings, and those of their *Kumaishdars*, are regularly furnished to the Resident, by the Superintendents of districts, and the Superintendent of Police; besides which, in cases of treason, rebellion, murder, and other heinous offences, or generally, when the Resident's confirmation is required to the sentence, a copy of the proceedings in detail, and in English, is forwarded, and on all such cases, witnesses are examined on oath.

The absence of defined rules, in many cases, and the abrogation of the punishment of mutilation, so frequently resorted to under the former government, but inadmissible under our rule, rendered it necessary to prescribe

prescribe crimes, and the Resident thought it best, where there was no defined practice, to adopt the general provisions of the criminal code in Bengal, as the rule of punishment for all offences, which they were applicable, and not inconsistent with the ideas and prejudices of the people; and, accordingly, the following rules were promulgated.

Sentence extending to death may be awarded against persons duly convicted of,

No. 1.—Treason or rebellion against the state.

No. 2.—Wilful murder.

No. 3.—Gang robbery or *Decoity*, or highway robbery, or burglary, or theft attended with murder.

No. 4.—Leaders of gangs, convicted of gang, or highway robbery, attended with torture or other severe personal injury.

Sentence extending to imprisonment for life with hard labor, may be awarded against persons convicted of,

No. 5.—Gang or highway robbery, not coming under the heads Nos. 3 and 4, including persons convicted of a second offence, of gang or highway robbery.

No. 6.—Burglary or thefts, attended with an attempt to commit murder.

No. 7.—Rape.

Sentence extending to imprisonment for fourteen years, with hard labor, may be awarded against persons convited of,

No. 8.—Wilful maiming or wounding.

No. 9.—Burglary or theft, attended with circumstances of an aggravated nature, not coming under the head No. 6, or on conviction of a second offence.

No. 10.—Knowingly receiving stolen property under circumstances of aggravation.

No. 11.—Coining.

No. 12.—Forgery, under circumstances of aggravation, or on a repetition of the offence.

Sentence extending to seven years imprisonment, with hard labor, may be awarded against persons convicted of,

No. 13.—Forgery, not coming under the head No. 12, also the crime of procuring deeds to be forged, and of knowingly uttering them.

No. 14.—Clipping or debasing the current coin, or knowingly issuing counterfeit coin.

No. 15.—Perjury or subornation of perjury.

No. 16.—Breaking prison, under circumstances of aggravation.

No.

No. 17.—Cheats, frauds, and embezzlements, of an aggravated nature, also gross corruption and extortion of public officers.

No. 18.—Other offences and high misdemeanors, not coming under the foregoing heads.

Persons convicted of some of the offences above specified, are liable to further penalties, in some cases, by corporal punishment; in others, by fines and forfeitures; in others, by banishment beyond the frontiers; and in cases of perjury, by public exposure. At the same time, a considerable degree of discretion is admitted in awarding a lighter degree of punishment. So that the penal inflictions seldom reach the extreme penalties sanctioned by the existing regulations.

The disturbed state in which the country continued for some time after our administration commenced, more particularly in the frontier districts of *Chutteesgurh*, *Chanda*, and *Balaghat*, together with the famine of 1819 and 20, led to the commission of numerous crimes, of the perpetrators of which many were never brought to justice. Men of lawless and abandoned habits, were let loose upon society by the intrigues of Appah Sahib and his adherents, and the pressure of want compelled others to resort to acts of violence; gang robbery, most commonly, for the purpose of carrying off grain, was committed to a very great extent, and it was not until the causes just mentioned, had ceased to operate, that the endeavors of the Superintendents to repress crime, and to establish order and tranquillity within their several jurisdictions, were attended with complete success; for some years past, however, few crimes of magnitude have occurred, of which the perpetrators have not been brought to trial.

The

The following abstract Statements, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, have been carefully prepared from the Criminal Registers, periodically sent to the Resident.

No. 1.—Exhibits the total of committals and convictions by the Superintendents, personally, in each year, and specifies the nature and extent of punishment awarded.

No. 2.—Shews the nature and amount of the crimes committed in each year, with reference to No. 1.

No. 3.—Is an abstract statement of criminal convictions by the *Kumaishdars* of *Pergunnas*, of the minor offences cognizable by them: and

No. 4.—Is a similar statement of the convictions that have taken place in the City of Nagpore, extracted from the reports of the Superintendent.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT No. 1.

	1819	1820	1821	1822	1823	1824	1825	
	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Total.
Committed for Trial, viz. Males, ..	383	876	732	579	492	571	347	3980
Females, ..	8	27	28	38	0	14	14	129
Total, ..	391	903	760	617	492	585	361	4109
Convicted and Sentenced,								
Imprisonment, and severally to be whipped, fined, kept to hard Labor, &c. — To Death, ...	11	45	25	30	11	2	6	130
For Life, ...	3	6	5	10	2	2	1	29
,, 14 years, ...	0	0	3	7	4	22	15	51
,, 10 ditto, ...	0	0	1	3	1	5	1	11
,, 7 ditto, ...	5	45	61	18	14	29	4	179
,, 6 ditto, ...	0	5	3	0	1	1	0	10
,, 5 ditto, ...	3	39	18	25	2	12	3	102
,, 4 ditto, ...	1	263	41	0	1	16	1	326
,, 3 ditto, ...	0	56	31	23	6	9	9	134
,, 2 ditto & above 1 yr. ..	65	55	152	45	66	51	45	479
,, 1 ditto ditto .. 6 mo.	28	95	178	82	121	102	42	648
,, 6 months and under,..	172	218	156	262	134	252	165	1359
Whipping and Fine, ...	39	21	25	8	6	9	13	116
Total Convicted, ..	327	848	700	513	369	512	305	3574
,, Acquitted, ..	43	24	50	45	123	70	54	409
No evidence, and not prosecuted,..	21	31	10	59	0	3	2	126
Total, ..	391	903	760	617	492	585	361	4109
Of whom were Executed, ...	5	21	10	8	3	1	0	48

STATEMENT No. 2.

	1819	1820	1821	1822	1823	1824	1825	
	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Number of persons.	Total number of persons in seven years.
Rebellion, ...	83	259	253	43	33	2	14	687
Murder, ...	12	37	51	72	29	36	18	255
Maiming or Wounding, ...	0	1	2	4	2	13	9	31
Gang Robbery, ...	109	201	102	56	31	64	32	595
Robbery, ...	72	124	63	30	25	16	15	339
Theft of various kinds, ...	31	116	114	277	189	26	136	1081
Receivers of Stolen property and being concerned with Thieves,	2	39	43	28	17	49	25	200
Frauds and petty offences of various kinds, ...	10	45	67	50	37	70	40	319
Total of Convictions, ..	319	822	695	511	363	511	299	3507
Acquitted or not prosecuted for want of evidence, ...	64	55	60	104	123	73	56	535
Total, ..	383	877	755	601	484	584	355	4042

* Of this number, twenty-three were convictions on account of Dakkas, committed in the preceding year.

SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.

(995)

3 z

STATEMENT

STATEMENT No. 3.

Nature of Crime.	1819	1820	1821	1822	1823	1824	1825	Total.
Petty Robbery, ...	15	43	42	64	304	244	221	933
Affray or Assault, ...	35	70	60	141	1257	684	803	3050
Fornication or Adultery,	136	221	176	323	1150	738	706	3450
Contumacy, ...	3	26	107	216	946	609	598	2507
Miscellaneous Offences,	69	102	95	151	1282	966	1312	3977
Total,....	258	462	480	895	4941	3241	3640	13917

Note.—The Amount of Convictions specified in the Columns for 1819, 1820, 1821, and 1822, shewing only those that took place in the District of Chuteesguth, the proceedings of the Kumaishdars, in the other Districts, were not Registered till the Year 1823.

STATEMENT No. 4.

Nature of Crime.	Six Months in 1818	1819	1820	1821	1822	1823	1824	1825	Total.
Murder, ...	0	2	1	3	4	1	1	2	14
Dhaka or Robbing in Gangs, ..	0	97	52	3	16	1	1	0	170
Robbery accompanied by attempt to Murder, ...	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Highway Robbery, ...	2	4	5	0	0	4	9	8	23
Breaking into Houses accompanied by Robbery, ...	1	14	10	3	20	10	8	5	71
Breaking into or entering Houses with intent to Steal,	4	7	7	0	1	7	9	6	41
Stealing in Houses, ...	11	18	18	3	4	6	45	29	134
Theft, ...	34	214	109	75	86	93	63	29	703
Receiving, purchasing, secreting or disposing of Stolen Property, ...	1	30	27	19	14	21	32	5	149
Coining, ...	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	7
Uttering base coin, ...	0	1	0	7	2	1	1	0	12
Fire raising, or Burning Houses or Property, ...	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	3
Child Stealing, ...	1	5	1	1	0	0	0	1	9
Fraud, embezzlement of property, breach of trust, and similar offences, ...	3	27	3	13	8	15	16	8	93
Cruelty, beating, maiming, or doing bodily injury to others,	0	3	4	1	3	0	8	0	19
Deserting from service without due notice, ...	0	1	0	1	0	4	0	1	7
Persons criminally convicted, whose crimes are not specified, ...	0	8	9	0	0	0	11	19	47
Total....	57	432	247	133	162	163	195	113	1503

If it be borne in mind, that the police has been all along in a progressive state of improvement, and, consequently, the proportion of offenders seized, to crimes committed, gradually on the increase, the results, as exhibited in the above tables, may be considered, on the whole, as favorable. Gang robbery has been nearly altogether repressed, but no inconsiderable decrease, in other crimes of magnitude, has also taken place. That a corresponding diminution is not apparent, in the petty offences, included in No. 3, is attributable rather to the greater efficiency of the police, than to an actual increase of crime. General result.

With respect to the City, in particular, it appears by the last census, closed on the 1st of January 1825, that its population, including the suburbs, amounted to one lac, fifteen thousand, two hundred and forty-two. Since July 1818, when the City Police was first organized, comprising a period of seven years and a half, the annual convictions of all descriptions amounted to only one thousand five hundred and two, which may be deemed moderate in such a population, when the low state of their morals, and the very imperfect manner in which property is secured from the depredations of robbers and thieves, are taken into consideration. Leaving out the six months of 1818, and taking the average for the succeeding seven years, the annual number of convictions will be a fraction more than two hundred and six. If the years 1819 and 1820 be separated from the succeeding five years, and the average of the two periods taken, the average number of convictions for 1819 and 1820, will be three hundred and thirty-nine and one-third per annum, while that of the succeeding five years, will be only one hundred and fifty-three and one-fifth.

The following Table of the number of convictions for the seven years, commencing on the 1st January 1819, and ending 31st December 1825, will shew the amount of crime, with the proportion it bears to the population, and the alterations which have occurred during the period.

In 1819,

					Fractnl. parts.
In 1819, there were	432	convictions,	or	1	in 266.763
In 1820,	ditto	247	ditto	1	466.566
In 1821,	ditto	133	ditto	1	866.481
In 1822,	ditto	162	ditto	1	711.370
In 1823,	ditto	163	ditto	1	707.006
In 1824,	ditto	195	ditto	1	590.974
In 1825,	ditto	113	ditto	1	1019.843

If the average of the years 1819 and 1820 be taken as before, the proportion which the convictions bear to the population, will be 1 in 366.669, and if taken for the subsequent five years, viz. 1821 to 1825 inclusive, it will be only 1 in 779.132, being less than one-half of the average amount of crime during the former period.

There are no data to be depended upon as authentic, from which an estimate could be formed of the amount of crime under the former government, and from which a comparative statement could be made, with what has occurred under the existing administration; but that it has been highly favorable, there can be no doubt, and the voice of the inhabitants is uniform, in acknowledging the enjoyment of a degree of security unknown in former times.

With reference to the foregoing statement of crimes committed in the city, it is proper to remark, that a considerable number of the persons tried and convicted in the city courts, have been sent in from the military cantonments of *Kamptee*, *Hingna*, and *Tacklee*, charged with crimes not usually taken cognizance of by military courts, and therefore transferred for trial to the civil authorities. These persons have, in general, been totally unconnected with the city, and the convictions of them should therefore be deducted from the amount of crime in reference to the population.

There

There is also another source of crime, in consequence of which a deduction should be made in favor of the permanent inhabitants of the city. Central India has, for a great length of time, been the resort of the enterprizing, idle, and debauched natives of Hindoostan and other countries, who have exhausted their means, or are anxious to earn a livelihood in a foreign country, where they may either gain characters, or retrieve their fortunes. Formerly there was plenty of employment for this class of persons, but now they find they are as badly off as they were in their native country, and having frequently, neither friends nor means of subsistence of their own, and being unable to procure employment, they have recourse to theft, as the only means of subsistence. Many instances of this kind occur, and the annexed abstract, specifying the countries in which the convicts at present in jail were born, will give some idea of the portion of crime that should, in fairness, be attributed to the native inhabitants of his Highness's territories.

Where Born.	*Numbers.*
In the city of Nagpore,	50
In the country subject to the Nagpore Government,	46
In the Nizam's dominions,	25
In the Bengal provinces,	26
In the Madras ditto,	4
In the Bombay ditto,	1
In the Peshwa's dominions,	5
In the Scindia's ditto,	1
In the Jeypore ditto,	2
In the Goojrat,	1
In the country under the Governor General's Agent, at Jubbulpore,	2
Total,	163

Juvenile delinqueney.

Another beneficial result may also be fairly ascribed to the present system, namely, the diminution, it may be almost said, the suppression of juvenile delinquency some: years ago, boys were regularly trained by old and experienced thieves to commit depredations on the public. Their plan was to go in pairs, an old thief and a boy. When any thing was observed, which the old one thought could be taken without much risk of detection, the boy was employed to steal it. If he succeeded, the property was immediately carried to some haunt of the gang, and secured. If the theft was observed, and the boy taken, then his experienced accomplice used to come to his aid, not with the view of releasing him by force, but with the air of an indifferent person who was totally unacquainted with the boy, he would ask what could be done to such a child? and recommend the party whose property had been stolen, to give him a cuff or two and let him go; and by this means the boy was usually let off, and the real criminal escaped all punishment. The practice having been, however, found out, and several of the culprits having been severely punished, it is now almost entirely suppressed. At present there are only five convicts in jail, who are under sixteen years of age.

Classes of the people amongst which crime is more or less prevalent.

Accompanying is an abstract, shewing the casts to which the convicts at present in jail, under sentence of the city courts, belong. From this abstract, a pretty correct opinion may be formed of the classes of the people in which crime is most prevalent. The most depraved and desperate criminals are usually to be found among the *Dhers*, *Kyekarees*, *Gonds*, *Mangs*, *Purdhans*, and *Koonbees*. In former times, the *Gonds*, *Mangs*, *Dhers*, and *Purdhans*, were notorious for depredations on the highway and *Dakka*, but of late years they seem to have restricted their depredations to thefts, and stealing in houses, which are by far the most common and numerous classes of crime now committed. The *Kyekarees* are notorious rogues and vagabonds, and may be said to be bred up as thieves. Their habits

habits are similar to those of Gypsies, and their pursuits nearly the same. They are great house-breakers, being very expert in digging through the walls of houses, and abstracting every thing that comes within their reach. They can hardly be said to belong to any country, as they lead a wandering life, travelling from one country to another, being generally expelled by the Government, for their misconduct, in a very short time, whenever they attempt to settle themselves in any fixed situation.

Abstract, shewing the Casts to which the Convicts at present in the Jail of the City of Nagpore belong.

Population.	*Casts.*	*No. of Convicts.*				
14,616.....	*Bramins*,.....	5	being	1	in	2,923
2,507.....	*Rajpoots*,.....	9	„	1	„	278
1,944.....	*Buneeahs*,.....	6	„	1	„	324
1,725.....	*Eedoors*, ...	3, one female,	„	1	„	575
9,134.....	*Koshtees*,.....	1	„	1	„	9,134
12,263.....	*Koonbees*,.....28, one female,		„	1	„	437
1,773.....	*Beldars*,.....	3	„	1	„	591
3,400.....	*Sonars*,.....	5	„	1	„	680
9,585.....	*Telees*,.....	1	„	1	„	9,585
14,579.....	*Moosulmans*,.....36		„	1	„	404
1,701.....	*Kulwars*,.....	2	„	1	„	850
1,849.....	*Hajams*,.....	1	„	1	„	1,849
564.....	*Khuttrees*,.....	1	„	1	„	564
651.....	*Dhobees*,.....	1	„	1	„	651
2,841.....	*Marhattas*,.....10, three females,		„	1	„	284
763.....	*Burhees*,.....	1	„	1	„	703
868.....	*Gosaeens*,.....	2	„	1	„	434
742.....	*Lohars*,.....	1, a female,	„	1	„	742
						1,903

Population.	*Casts.*	*No. of Convicts.*				
1,903.....	*Bohees (Kuhars)*....	2	being	1	in	951
426.....	*Dheemurs*,.....	1	„	1	„	426
162.....	*Guwueyas*, or *Quwwals*,	2	„	1	„	81
379.....	*Lodhees*,.....	1, a female,....	„	1	„	379
165.....	*Purdhans*,.....	2	„	1	„	82
6,368.....	*Dhers*,.....22,	one female,..	„	1	„	289
632.....	*Mangs*,.....	1	„	1	„	632
916.....	*Chumars*,.....	2, one female,..	„	1	„	458
451.....	*Hullalkhors*, or *Khakrobs*, ...	1	„	1	„	451
110.....	*Dhungurs*,.....	1	„	1	„	110
502.....	*Gonds*,.....	6	„	1	„	83
89.....	*Kyekarees*,.....	4	„	1	„	22
2.....	*Parsees*,.....	1	„	1	„	2
5.....	*Bunjarries*,.....	1	„	1	„	5
		Total,.... 163	9 females.			

Prospect of improvement or deterioration in the morals and conduct of the people.

Captain Witherspoon's opinion on the subject of the prospect of improvement or deterioration in the morals or conduct of the people, is as follows; and it is equally applicable to every part of India as to these territories.

"There is but little reason, he says, to hope for any considerable improvement in the morals or habits of the present or rising generation, while the bulk of the people remains so ignorant, and their minds so uncultivated. They can scarcely be said to know right from wrong, and act much more frequently from their feelings than their judgment. There can, however, be no doubt, but that the steady uniform practice of administering

nistering equal justice to all, and of listening to, and redressing well-founded complaints, has produced, and will continue to produce a beneficial effect on the moral conduct and sentiments of the inhabitants; for they are quick-sighted, where their own interests are concerned, and when they observe that an upright line of conduct will uniformly ensure support and protection, while fraud, crime, and oppression will, as uniformly, be repressed and punished, their interests will assuredly induce them to adopt the one in preference to the other. But, beyond this, I see no ground for any reasonable hope of any considerable improvement in the moral conduct of the people, as long as their minds continue in their present uncultivated state. Plentiful seasons, and sufficient employment will diminish the quantity of crime. But in cases of want, or a general scarcity of food, there would be no security for the public, from the depredations of the necessitous, but the vigilance of an efficient police."

Jails.

In the *Wyne Gunga* district, the fort of *Bhundara* has been fitted up as a jail, and the old palace at *Chanda*. At *Chindwarah* and *Rypore*, for *Deogurh* above the *Ghauts*, and *Chutteesgurh*, new and appropriate buildings have been erected; and one also at *Nagpore* for the city and *Deogurh* below the *Ghauts*.

The convicts are employed at hard labor, either on the roads or in some other works: they leave the jail at sun-rise, and return about four o'clock; they are subsisted by money rations, at the rate of one-half pice per diem, or about a rupee and a half a month: and a blanket is allowed for each prisoner annually. When they are released, each prisoner receives eight anas.

The total number of convicts and prisoners in all the jails, at the close of the year 1825, was five hundred and eighteen; which is one hundred

and twenty-one, less than at the corresponding period of the preceding year. This, with reference to the population, which may be computed at about two millions and a half, bears strong testimony to the good order and tranquillity subsisting in the country.

Expences of Judicial and Police establishments.

The disbursements on account of the police, and the administration of criminal and civil justice, and maintenance of prisoners, &c. were, during the past year, as follows:

Expences of Police and Judicial Departments in the districts of *Deogurh*, *Wyne Gunga*, *Chutteesgurh*, and *Deogurh Balla Ghaut*,.....Rupees	75,857	12	0¾
Ditto of the Police Establishment in the City,.....	1,00,681	4	8
Ditto of the Adawlut Establishment, ditto,.....	18,948	0	0
Ditto incurred in the maintenance of Prisoners, repairs of Jails, allowances to Medical Officers,.....	19,229	15	0¼
Total,....	2,14,716	15	9

The amount realized from the various branches of revenue, in the *Nagpore* territories, exclusive of the district of *Chanda*, during the *Fusslee* year 1234, amounted to forty three lacs, seventeen thousand, one hundred and ninety-one rupees, seven and one-quarter pies, consequently, the expenses of the Judicial and Police Departments, may be stated to be in the proportion of nearly five per cent. of the annual revenue.

SECTION EIGHTH.

Retrospective view of Nagpore Affairs, and of the Plans of Administration, under the British Superintendence.

IN the provisional engagement, under which APPA SAHIB was restored to the throne, he agreed that the civil and military affairs of his Government, should be settled and conducted by Ministers, in the confidence of the British Government, according to the advice of the Resident. Preliminary observations.

The plan on which it was proposed to settle the Government, was to take the *Mysore* system for a ground-work, but to introduce more direct and constant interference than was there found expedient. *Mysore* system, taken as the ground-work of the new settlement.

First. Because we could not place confidence in the Rajah, for some time at least.

Secondly.

Secondly. Because we had not a statesman, like *Poorniah*, to set up as *Dewan.*

Thirdly. Because the habits of the *Nagpore* Government were so much worse than any which ever existed in *Mysore.*

Ministry of NAGOO PUNDIT, and NARRAIN PUNDIT.

The individual whom the Resident wished to select, to fill the office of Minister, was NARRAIN PUNDIT, one of the persons who had negotiated the treaty of alliance, and who appeared best qualified, from his integrity of character, and knowledge of our maxims of rule, as well as from his tried attachment to our interests, to act in concert with the Resident; but at his request, suggested by the timidity of his character, NAGOO PUNDIT, his colleague before the war, and a person well qualified as a financier, was made the nominal head of the administration, at once to stand between NARRAIN PUNDIT and APPA SAHIB, who had an habitual deference for his advice, and to assist in the details of revenue management. All the powers of government were thus to have been exercised by these two persons, under our guidance, and through them, such improvements were to be introduced into the system, as might appear necessary, without deranging the general forms of the administration hitherto subsisting, and which, of themselves, if adhered to in their original purity, seemed, as far as they went, to afford considerable security, both with regard to the prosperity of the country, and the interests of the state. What was wanted, was a zealous and vigilant superintendence, directed to detect and punish abuses, a strict adherence to one regular system, and a faithful observance of the engagements entered into by government, or its officers, with the *Ryots*, which, of itself, would compensate for many defects, and give confidence to the people, accustomed to consider nothing as permanent, but a series of apprehensions and exactions. The greater imperfections might, at once, be removed; but time and experience were required to do the rest.

The

The treasury was empty, and not only the revenues of the year, and considerable forced contributions, but the money left by RUGHOJEE, had been squandered, and even jewels and plate, to a considerable amount, disposed of, to cover the ill employed expences of the late war. Public credit was unknown. The Rajah had no idea of economy, and the revenues of the state, being now reduced to an estimated net revenue of only forty-two lacks of rupees, it was a task of some difficulty to fix an establishment for him, which should, at the same time, meet his wishes, preserve his dignity, and be suited to the reduced circumstances of the state. Retrenchment, in every department, was necessary, and a strict investigation of accounts of the revenue officers, preparatory to fixing the scale of assessment for the next year. Still it was intended to look more to the future than the past, in any measures which might result from these enquiries. Little progress had been made in them, when APPA SAHIB's renewed treachery compelled us to substitute the present Rajah in his room.

NAGOO PUNDIT having participated in APPA SAHIB's proceedings, his colleague, NARRAIN PUNDIT, did not feel himself equal to standing alone in the administration of affairs, under the new order of things. As the Rajah was a minor, we were still obliged either to administer his affairs for him ourselves, or to set up a minister.

Ministry of SUDEEK ALLEE KHAN.

The only person who presented himself, with the requisite qualifications for a minister, was the NUWAB SUDEEK ALLEE KHAN. The Resident had already derived considerable benefit from his intelligence and assistance. He had been much employed and trusted by the late Rajah RUGHOJEE BHOOSLAH, and was generally known to be a very able man, and intimately acquainted with the affairs of the government in every branch. The jealousy entertained towards him, by the former ministers,

and by APPA SAHIB himself, had alone prevented his being employed by the Resident, in any ostensible situation, during the period immediately subsequent to the restoration of APPA SAHIB; he had shewn the utmost zeal in detecting abuses, and there could be no doubt of his attachment to the new order of things, which he had sealed by actively aiding the Resident in the seizure of APPA SAHIB, and the notoriety with which he openly declared his detestation of that prince, owing to the injuries and insults which he had received from him, a short time before the war broke out in 1817.

Sensible, however, that the same zeal for detecting and reforming abuses, could not be expected in SADEEK ALLEE, as a minister, which he had shewn whilst out of power, and being persuaded that nothing but a complete revision of all the departments and establishments, and a thorough insight into all the affairs of the government, and the state of the country, would enable us to do any good, it was deemed necessary by the Resident, to devise some means for the vigilant observance of the conduct of the minister in every department, at least until the new system should be well established, and fairly set in motion.

Checks upon his administration.

Whilst, therefore, all measures were to be concerted and arranged between SADEEK ALLEE and the Resident personally, and the orders of the former on all points, issued with the concurrence of the latter, it was settled that the execution of those orders should be subject to the direct inspection of British agents. On this principle, one gentleman was to superintend all the establishments connected with the court and the palace, including the city collections, and judicial affairs; one the police of the city, whilst our troops occupied it; and separate officers were to superintend the general proceedings in the Provinces of *Deogurh*, *Chanda*, and *Chutteesgurh*, respectively. The military force of the

the state remained exclusively in our hands, with the exception of the *Sebundees*, necessary for the common purposes of police, and collection in the country, which were at the disposal of the minister, and some extra levies of irregulars, required *pro tempore*, in consequence of the turbulence of the *Gonds* and the invasion of BAJEE RAO. The treasury was also to be superintended by a British officer, and all the receipts and disbursements of the Government to be transacted through it. This, the Resident considered particularly necessary, as well for securing the due payment of the troops, as constituting a strong check on all the money transactions of the minister.

Escape of APPA SAHIB, and assumption of the administration by the Resident.

A short trial of this system in the period between APPA SAHIB'S seizure and his escape, convinced the Resident that it would not succeed, and that these offices of check and control, would be almost nugatory. Neither the interest of the minister and his adherents, nor the pride of place could brook this close inspection, if rendered efficient; but this it was not difficult to avoid, and it was evidently the study of SUDEEK ALLEE, to involve every thing in darkness and mystery, and to defeat every plan which tended to curtail or check his power. The escape of APPA SAHIB, and an apprehension of the baneful consequences to the public tranquillity, which shortly ensued, rendered it imperative in the Resident's judgment, that we should no longer rest on the merits of any native minister, for the preservation of the state, and that the establishment of the new government, on principles combining our own interests and reputation, with the welfare of the minor Prince, and his subjects, could only be effected, by taking into our own hands, for a time at least, the direct administration of affairs.

This arrangement agreeable to the Regent and the people.

In the first place, there was every reason to believe, that to the Regent BAKA BAEE, and the better part of the people about the court, it

it would be much more agreeable, that we should rule directly, than indirectly through a minister, and the resolution to this effect, which the Resident did not hesitate to adopt and publish, immediately after he heard of the escape of APPA SAHIB, appeared to give very general satisfaction, particularly to the inhabitants of the country at large. There was a difficulty also respecting the Raja's cousin, GOOJABA, in the former arrangement, he being on the worst terms with SUDEEK ALLEE; and this could only have been removed, by considering GOOJABA, who is the nearest male relation of the young Rajah of full age, as the head under BAKA BAEE, of the court and palace establishments, during the Rajah's minority, independent of the minister, which arrangement would have been adopted, had the system been continued.

General necessity for it.

On the necessity of our assumption of the direct administration of the country, it is to be observed, that in the condition to which the Government had been reduced by the profligate and extravagant administration of APPA SAHIB, operating on its finances by the effects of the war, disorganizing every thing, and by the diminution of its territory, in the cessions to us, nothing but a system of strict economy in expenditure, and one of general management, directed to the improvement of the country, and the acquisition of augmented resources, could enable it to aspire to that rank as a substantive state, in which it was policy to place it, but if left to itself, what native administration, under such circumstances, ever did, or could preserve itself from falling to pieces. On the contrary, it would endeavor to maintain large and inefficient military establishments, as heretofore, to meet the demands of its former chiefs and retainers, and to keep up a splendor in its court, equally unsuited to its circumstances. Debts would accumulate on debts, and expences on expences. The country would be delivered over to every sort of oppression, to meet charges which no regular system could provide for, and a complete

complete state of anarchy would generate those predatory habits in all classes, which would tend, in a great measure, to undo what had been accomplished with such rapidity and success, by Lord Hastings' wise and energetic policy.

Every principle of regard to our own interests and security demanded, that we should endeavor to prevent these evils, and it, perhaps, might have been done, to a certain extent, by a less degree of interference on our part, than the following considerations required.

First.—The Resident conceived that it ought to be adopted as a principle, to make the state of *Nagpore* reimburse us for our expences in protecting it, as well as contribute a share of those incurred by us for the general tranquillity, besides maintaining military and civil establishments adequate to its own internal government and its court. The acquisitions we had made, did not suffice for the former, and if we demanded more, the remainder would not suffice for the latter. We could, therefore, only expect to be finally reimbursed for our expences, by an improvement in the resources of the country, which might yield a surplus revenue. The ceded provinces, under British management, would, no doubt, soon increase in value, and the Rajah's reserved territory would also improve greatly, if well administered. The considerations which led the Resident to pronounce that this was not to be expected, except under our direct management, shall be immediately mentioned.

Secondly. It had already been decided, that the Rajah's military establishment must be reformed, and regularly paid under us. If we took cessions for the amount of the pay, the remaining possessions would hardly leave to the Rajah a state, in name; and if we did not, we had another urgent reason for directly managing the resources of the state for

 a time,

a time, to prevent the possibility of failure in this important branch of expenditure ; such a failure, indeed, would have been highly probable under any native administration, and would, undoubtedly, have taken place at *Nagpore*, even in the outset, from the want both of funds and of credit in the state itself.

The situation of things at *Nagpore* differed most materially from that, out of which the *Mysore* system was elicited. In *Mysore*, the *Mooselman* government was dissolved, and the minister we set up, aided by some of the ablest British officers India has seen, had the choice of his own instruments, and to create his own system, at least in the higher branches of the government. The expences of the new court, and of every department were fixed, not from precedent, but on a calculation of means, and according to the dictates of propriety; and no departure from these considerations was required by circumstances extraneous to the demands of a prudent, just, and liberal policy, with regard to the immediate interests of the government, which we were setting up. There were no claims and no obligations, but those of gratuitous bounty, to the deposed family and its adherents.

In the present case, there had been no dissolution of the Government, but a mere change in the head of it. The former Rajah was a proscribed individual, whilst all the principal persons of the state, and the relations of the family, who were equally connected with him and the new Rajah, remained with the same title to the consideration of the past, as of the present administration. Although a minor too, the new Rajah's establishments could not be reduced to what was strictly necessary for his comfort and dignity, but were to be modified from those which actually existed, and in a great degree, according to the hereditary claims and pretensions of individuals, which neither justice nor policy would admit of being laid aside:

aside. All the departments remained as they were, and it was through the agency of a set of men, accustomed to every species of corruption and oppression, and naturally feeling every reform of abuses, as a personal injury to themselves, that a minister would have been called on to execute his or our plans of amelioration.

On this general view alone, independently of the special points above mentioned, a different system from that of *Mysore* seemed to be required, and it was only by assuming the management ourselves, that we could at all counteract the abuses of past times, or place ourselves in the commanding position of a creating, rather than a reforming power. By this mode of action only, could we have a choice of instruments and of means, and what could not be expected from a native minister, with extensive connexions, and with every temptation to follow his inclinations in opposition to his duty, might be effected by us, acting as justice and true policy alone seemed to dictate, and even in the reductions we might be compelled to make, in the salaries and emoluments of the officers of the former government, we should obtain credit for what we gave, instead of odium for what we withheld, because, in fact, we gave every thing.

The whole country was ours by right of conquest, and if it had been for our interest to retain it, we should have been amply justified in doing so, by the repeated treachery of its ruler, and on the principle of indemnifying ourselves for all the expences and risks which that treachery had brought upon us. The new Rajah was placed on the throne, solely by the favor of the British Government, and the provision which might be made for his court, and for all the old servants of the state, would be an emanation from our bounty, whilst it must necessarily be regulated by what was due to our own just expectations from the connexion, and to the necessary demands of the Government we allowed to exist, as the instrument

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of our views for the administration of the restored territory. That Government had not the means, when its resources were compared with the demands upon it, to spare for the deductions of a corrupt system. It could only stand by our support, as it had been set up by our means. It required credit for its first operations, but it had none except through us, and would therefore, soon be involved in difficulties, that would hasten its utter ruin, if we did not lend it our name and the promise of our integrity. In short, our reputation required that it should be a standing monument of our regard for the welfare of the inhabitants and the real interests of the Rajah, as it would be, of the moderate and liberal use of our power.

Acting on these views, shortly after the escape of APPAH SAHIB, the Resident issued a proclamation, which, after detailing the grounds of the deposition of APPAH SAHIB, and the elevation of his successor, concluded with a notification, that, for the present, the British Government would take into its own hands, the settlement and management of the *Nagpore* dominions, in his Highness' name and on his behalf, and that English gentlemen had been appointed to superintend the different departments of the administration, with an exhortation to the people, to continue without apprehension, to exercise their usual employments, and the assurance, that all complaints of oppression and injustice would be immediately redressed, and every means taken to promote the welfare and prosperity of all classes of the inhabitants.

General view of the system adopted.

The following is a general view of the plan which was adopted by the Resident, subject, of course, to the sanction of the Supreme Government, for the actual administration of affairs.

The Rajah was placed under the guardianship of BAKA BAEE, who was the Regent. GOOJABBA, who was the nearest male relation of the Rajah,

Rajah, of full age, was appointed the BAEE's minister, and the ostensible head of the household and court. The relations and principal officers, not efficiently employed, were pensioned, in proportion to their former allowances, and every requisite establishment connected with the household, was reduced to a scale proportioned to the means of the state, though, at the same time, not retrenching from the real dignity of the Rajah. The former expences were nominally high, but much went into the pockets of the inferior agents. This it was proposed to prevent by the superintendence of a British officer, whose duty it was to pay all the establishments, and to see that the expences did not exceed what was fixed. Matters were not yet ripe for leaving these establishments exclusively to the BAEE, but every thing was referred to her, and the Superintendent acted as her only agent, until the arrival of GOOJABA, who was absent at *Benares*. This arrangement, though it may appear too minute and delicate, in the degree of interference which it authorized, was particularly agreeable to the Regent, as it saved her much annoyance from the solicitations and murmurings of many persons, who would not have been content with what was assigned to them, if they had to deal with a woman; and the same arrangement was also satisfactory to the principal people, who had before received fixed salaries, but who suffered from, instead of sharing in the gains of the former abuses.

The military establishment was to consist of three thousand horse, of which two thousand were already raised, a brigade of regular infantry, with artillery, and three provincial corps of irregulars for *Deogurh*, *Chanda*, and *Chutteesgurh*. In the horse, the most respectable, both of the *Marhatta* and *Mooselman* chiefs, of the state, were provided for. A pay department, and an office of audit, was established for all the Rajah's forces, and the Resident had an assistant for the conduct of all military affairs and correspondence. The former *Pagah*, or household cavalry, and a

small body of horse, maintained by his relations, were kept up to serve as a retinue for the Rajah; and were included in the civil list, as also the SEBUNDEES necessary for the purposes of collection and police.

For the general management of the country, the Resident appointed, in the name of the Rajah, British officers, with the designation of Collectors and Magistrates (subsequently changed to that of Superintendents) over the three grand divisions of *Deogurh*, *Chanda* and *Chutteesgurh*. *Deogurh* above the *Ghauts* was, afterwards, formed into a separate jurisdiction, under a Commissioner or Superintendent, who was to make a settlement with the *Gond* chiefs, whose seats are principally in that quarter, and the extent of *Deogurh* below the *Ghauts*, which included *Lunjhee*, was such as to render necessary a division of it into the two jurisdictions of *Nagpore*, and the *Wyne Gunga* districts. The instructions to these officers will be hereafter mentioned.

The administration of the capital was kept separate, in its collections, police, and judicial concerns. The collections were managed by the Superintendent of the household, and the old courts of police and adawlut were left, as formerly, under the native authorities, but superintended by a British officer, who had a police corps under his charge. All causes connected with the Rajah's relations, the principal people of the court, and the servants of the palace, were to be referred to the BAEE. At a subsequent period, a superior court, superintended by one of the Resident's assistants and GOOJABA DADA, was established at the palace, to decide on civil and criminal cases of magnitude in the city, and to receive appeals from the native adawlut. An appeal lies to the Resident from this court, and from all the Superintendents, and the practice of presenting petitions to him on all subjects, by every class of the people, was, from the first, carefully and successfully encouraged.

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The department of the treasury and of finance, including the mint, was entrusted to an officer, and as the treasury was at the palace, it was placed under the same person who superintended the household and city collections.

General instructions to Superintendents.

The general instructions of the Resident to the several Superintendents, were to conciliate and settle the minds of the natives, and to gain their confidence. This, the Superintendents were told, would be done generally, by telling them, and convincing them by all their actions, that we meant to maintain the ancient institutions of the country. They were to preserve the *Mahratta* system unimpaired, with no material innovations, further than, to remove great abuses. The abolition of all demands from the cultivators, beyond the fixed *Jummabundee*, was to be announced. These demands, under different names, were the source of constant annoyance and impoverishment under the old government. The native collectors were, as far as possible, to continue unchanged; to act under written instructions, and to receive fixed salaries, proportionate to their collections, instead of being the farmers of their districts. The village establishments were to be continued, with their former privileges, or restored where they might have been discontinued. No great change, even appearing decidedly beneficial, was to precede that perfect knowledge of the state of the country, which would be necessary to reconcile such change with the interests both of the Government and of the people. All lands, and allowances in money, appropriated to the maintenance of *Pagodas* and *Bramins*, &c. were to be maintained. Attention was also to be paid to the employment of the military population of the district in *Sebundee* duties, as far as might be practicable and desirable.

The establishment of an efficient police was particularly recommended, and the Superintendents were enjoined in this, as in every other branch of their duties, to take advantage of existing establishments.

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The encouragement of *Punchayuts*, according to ancient usage, was inculcated in civil cases. The native collectors were to superintend all minor causes, and the Superintendent himself to judge in those of magnitude, and on appeals from the inferior tribunals.

Criminal cases of small concern were, in like manner, to be decided by the native local authorities, and more important ones by the Superintendent. Capital cases were to be referred to the Resident, for the orders of the Rajah, and in these, the Superintendents were directed to attend to the general disinclination of the *Nagpore* Government to punish capitally. *Bramins* and women had been always exempted from such sentences. The Superintendents were directed to refer all such cases to the Resident, that he might ascertain the Raja's wishes. Some subsidiary securities for the faithful discharge of their duties, by the native officers, were suggested.

Lastly, the attention of the Superintendents was directed to the acquirement of full information respecting the state, produce, and capacity of their districts, their former and actual revenue, their divisions, and principal places, and on all subjects connected with the revenue, the administration of justice, police, and commerce; and frequent tours through their districts, were recommended, both with the view of acquiring information, and to conciliate and give confidence to the inhabitants.

An explanation of all these arrangements, together with a draught of a definitive treaty, founded upon the provisional engagement, which has been given in the Historical Section, but modified according to the new system, was submitted to the Supreme Government by the Resident, in his dispatch of the 1st July, 1818.

Opinion and decision of the Supreme Government.

Previously, however, to the receipt of that report, instructions had been

been issued by the Supreme Government to the Resident, empowering him to conclude with the new Government, a treaty corresponding with the one proposed with APPA SAHIB, with the modifications that might be requisite.

It seemed to the Governor General to be indispensable, that the British Government should exercise, for a time, a degree of direct interference in the internal administration of the country, which, otherwise, on general principles, would have been considered as highly undesirable. The total dissolution of the Government of *Nagpore*, by the events of the preceding eight months, and the apparent want of persons of integrity and capacity, to fill the principal offices of the state, rendered this course, in the opinion of his Lordship, nearly unavoidable. It was, however, the earnest wish of Lord Hastings, as well as his positive instruction, that our interference should be restricted within the narrowest possible limits, and that even when exercising it, where necessary, the earliest practicable restoration of the ministerial and executive duties of the state to their natural and proper channels, should be retained permanently in view.

The Governor General would have been infinitely gratified, if even the military force of the state of *Nagpore*, with the exception of a small and select body, could have been confided to its native chiefs; but that was regarded as altogether unattainable, and his Lordship was convinced, that no choice was left, between making the principal part of the army a British force, and exposing the new Government and our just influence in it, to imminent hazard. The same necessity did not, however, apparently, exist (at least not in the same degree) with regard to the civil administration, and it was the Governor General's desire, that we should, if practicable, limit ourselves to the selection of a Minister, in whom we could place confidence, and who should recur to the Resident for counsel and assistance, and make the interests of the alliance, identified as it is with

the prosperity of the country, the rule of his policy, while he should remain unshackled, in the executive details of the administration, as long as it should be preserved free from oppression and gross abuse. To prevent the latter, it was necessary that he should be accountable to the Resident, whose duty it would be to point out to him, and require him to correct such irregularities as he should perceive; still, however, leaving the Minister to be the ostensible agent of the Government.

Generally, the views of Lord Hastings, in the form of the civil administration, were limited to the restoration of it, as nearly as might be practicable, to the character of its original institutions, to the correction and punishment of gross abuses and frauds, in the collection and appropriation of the revenues, to the introduction of order, regularity, and economy in every branch of the administration, and the establishment of such plain, simple, and efficient regulations, on the basis of the ancient usages and laws of the country, as might afford to the Rajah's Government, when it should assume the administration, every reasonable expectation of being able to carry it on, under our protection, with credit and success. The Governor General, however, left the general application of these principles, to the actual state of affairs, to the Resident's discretion.

Notwithstanding these views, which did not reach the Resident in time to direct his measures, the Governor General did not withhold his sanction from the system of administration established by Mr. Jenkins, on the grounds he had submitted. The early restoration of the state of *Nagpore* to its rank, as one of the substantive powers of India, continued, however, to be the earnest wish of the Governor General in Council. The time first fixed, was the expiration of a revenue settlement, which had been concluded for three years in 1819-20, with an expectation on the part of the people, of the districts being continued under the charge of British

British Superintendents. A new settlement, for a further term of five years, under our guarantee, was to be made at a proper period, with an understanding, that from the commencement of that period, the territory should come under the direct management of the Rajah. It was, however, apprehended, that the wish of the Supreme Government to make over the management to the Rajah, could not be fully accomplished, with regard to all the districts, without danger to the tranquillity, not only of the Rajah's territories, but also of our own adjoining country. The districts referred to, are *Chutteesgurh*, *Chanda*, and *Deogurh* above the *Ghauts*, with the superintendence of which is connected, the management of the *Gonds*, which it was resolved to retain for the present, under British Superintendents, acting in the name of the Rajah, and under the orders of the Resident, until the inhabitants could safely be delivered over to the rule of the Rajah's officers. Mr. Jenkins was instructed to secure the power of keeping those districts under our care, in the manner specified, by stipulations in the definitive treaty, which remained to be concluded when the rest of the country was transferred. This period was again postponed in 1822, until the Rajah should come of age, and as that period approaches, it becomes necessary to decide the various questions which arise out of the consideration of the proposed restoration.

The degree of success with which the system of government adopted in 1818, has been attended, under the able and zealous co-operation of the gentlemen, who have conducted its details under the Resident, will be fully understood by the account of proceedings in the various departments that has been given in the body of this report. The beneficial effects of his exertions, the Resident, with unaffected sincerity, attributes mainly to the liberal confidence which he has enjoyed from the Supreme Government. That confidence could not but infuse energy and spirit into himself, and give weight and eminence to his political character, which ensured

ensured that ready and cordial co-operation of all the British military authorities, which so largely contributed to his primary success in putting down rebellion and opposition in all quarters. This was an indispensable preliminary, which alone could have rendered the Resident's administration secure and efficient. At the same time, the unlimited choice of British officers, both for the civil and military branches of the *Nagpore* state, gave the Resident the means of bringing every kind of talent required for his purposes into action, and in such circumstances, the exertions of every rank of functionaries, have borne that character of personal devotion to their immediate superior, as well as of public zeal and ardor, which the times required, and which have proved equal to every exigency.

SECTION NINTH.

PLAN FOR THE DEFINITIVE SETTLEMENT OF THE NAGPORE GOVERNMENT.

IN the following discussions, the Resident assumes, that the Treaty, of which the draught is given in the Appendix, is considered to be virtually subsisting between the Rajah and the British Government, though not formally executed, and that it is to be the basis of the definitive settlement of the *Nagpore* Government.

In the preamble to that Treaty, the British Government is represented as removing APPA SAHIB from the *Musnud*, in consequence of his repeated delinquencies, and as bestowing the vacant seat on RUGHOJEE BHOOSLAH, the present Rajah, under certain conditions specified in the Treaty. Those conditions may be classed; first, as settling the external relations of the new Rajah to the British Government and other states; secondly, as acknowledging and confirming certain acts of territorial cession and pecuniary compensation, connected with the engagements of the deposed Rajah; thirdly, as defining the special terms on which the British Government confers upon him, the reserved portion of the dominions of the BHOOSLA family.

As the preamble vests the Rajah with the personal dignity and political character, forfeited by his predecessor, so the first set of Articles explain the limitations annexed to the exercise of the sovereign functions, with regard to foreign states. By the first article, the treaty of protective alliance concluded with APPA SAHIB in 1816, is confirmed, as far as consistent with the tenor of the present engagements. By the third article, the Rajah not only confirms the stipulation in the former treaty which prohibited intercourse with other states, without the participation of the Company's Government, but renounces all communication whatever, excepting through the Agents of that Government. The eighteenth article is specially directd against any renewal of the old forms or observances implying a dependence on the Rajah of *Sattarah*. The fourth article relieves the British Government from the restrictions, as to the strength and positions of the subsidiary force, prescribed in the former treaty.

The article in the former treaty, regarding a contingent on the part of the Rajah, is virtually superseded by the transfer of all military establishments to the British Government, but there is another article, the ninth, which provides for an eventual pecuniary contribution in case of war, and another, the fifteenth, which stipulates aids in grain and *Bunjarries*. The second article stipulating for the seizure and surrender of European and American foreigners, may also be here noticed, and the fourteenth, which empowers the British Government to garrison any of the forts in the Rajah's territory.

The articles connected with the second head, are the fifth, by which the Rajah cedes the territory taken by the British Government, on account of the expences of the subsidiary force, in lieu of the former subsidy, and of the contingent; the thirteenth, ceding the hills of *Setabuldee*, to be fortified and applied to military purposes by the British Government,

ment, and promising to assign pasture land for the use of the British cantonment; the sixth, which provides for eventual exchanges of territory, arising out of the above cessions; the twelfth and seventeenth, which bind the Rajah to pay the arrears of the former subsidy, and certain sums due from APPA SAHIB, to the British Government, and to reimburse the officers, troops, &c. of the British cantonments and residency; and the sixteenth, by which the Rajah engages to pay such a provision for the deposed Rajah, APPA SAHIB, and for his ministers, as may be fixed by the British Government. Most of these articles have been executed by the Rajah's Government, and no claims, either of a pecuniary or territorial nature, remain unadjusted.

Under the third head, the seventh article is as follows: "the British Government, for the present, will undertake the settlement and management of the reserved country, in his Highness's name and on his behalf, and his Highness's personal expences, and the allowances of his relations and adherents, shall be arranged on a footing suited to his dignity and to the actual means of the state. All establishments, civil and military, as long as it may appear necessary to the British Government, shall be under the direct control of British officers, and be modelled and regulated according to its pleasure.

The eighth article provides, that if circumstances shall hereafter admit of the transfer of the administration to the Rajah's exclusive management, his Highness shall pay, at all times, the utmost attention to the advice of the British Government, on all subjects connected with his Highness's interests, the happiness of his people, and the mutual welfare of both states, and shall conduct the affairs of his Government by the hands of ministers and other officers, in the confidence of the British Government. The army is to be always under the direct control of British officers.

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The ninth article entitles the British Government to participation in the profits of good government, and the tenth and eleventh, provide for the eventual resumption of the management of the country, in the event of bad government on the part of the Rajah.

Such, then, are the general terms, under which the government of the Rajah is to come into the exercise of its functions, whenever that may be conceded, and the British Government has fixed the period of transferring the administration to his Highness, to be at the expiration of his minority. It has, however, been contemplated, to keep in our own hands certain districts, which could not be given over to native management without danger to the public tranquillity. In one word, retaining the military power of the state under its own control, the Supreme Government has determined to transfer to the civil management of the Rajah, such portions of his territory as he can properly govern, when he is of an age to take upon himself the burthen.

The principal questions, then, to be discussed are, the date at which the Rajah's minority is to be considered to expire; the measures to be taken, preparatory to any transfer of the powers which he is then to exercise; the arrangements recommended for placing his Highness in the commanding position requisite to give dignity and efficiency to his authority; and the steps to be taken for securing the beneficial exercise of it; the portions of territory which are to be assigned to the Rajah, and those to be retained under British officers; and the best mode of providing for the due payment of the military establishments, which will remain under the Resident.

First. With regard to the date at which the Rajah's minority is to be considered to expire.

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The Rajah is now in his nineteenth year, but he is by no means so forward, either in understanding or acquirements, as youths at his age usually are. When he was placed on the *Musnud*, he had not even commenced the common elements of reading, writing, and accounts. The Resident's early attention was directed to have him taught these branches, and to combine with them, such other lessons as might prepare him for his future destiny. No attempt was, however, made to deviate, either in the mode or quality of his instruction, from the usual course observed by the natives. The requisite teachers were assigned him, and the general direction of his education was left to the Regent, though the Resident required and received daily reports of his progress, and specimens of his lessons. The Rajah shewed every disposition and ability to learn, and, on the whole, he has for some time past been tolerably grounded in the essential principles of reading, writing, and accounts. He knows a little of the Persian language, as well as his own, perfectly; and the books he has read in the course of his tuition, have been such as to inculcate the general duties of morality, and the rules of good and virtuous government. In the branch of accounts, such lessons have been given him as to initiate him in a general way, in a knowledge of the items of his household expenditure. The more important accounts of the revenue and expenditure of the government, have not yet been laid before him, but he has attended the chief tribunal of justice at the palace, which is held under GOOJABA, and one of the Resident's assistants, Captain Isacke, for some time past, to make him acquainted with that great branch of his future duties. It appears, however, that he has hitherto considered his attendance rather as a constraint, and that he has not taken much interest in the proceedings of the court. His voluntary sittings have been short, and his attention has been wavering, and it is to be feared, little improving. He is, indeed, still too much addicted to puerile amusements.

On the whole, his temper appears mild, he is docile, and not incapable of learning, but rather averse to serious application, and he cannot be said, as yet, to have attained that maturity of intellect, which would constitute a virtual majority for the ruler of a state, or even the uncontrolled management of private property. What may be expected from him ultimately, it is difficult to say, but there is no reason why he may not now be partially emancipated from the restrictions of his minority. The period, however, at which he can be allowed to exercise any of the powers of government, will, probably, require to be determined, with reference to other grounds, which shall be now stated.

The objections, on general considerations, to vesting the powers of a Native Government in the hands of British officers, and the fear of rendering it difficult to revert to that Government, the longer its functions might be suspended, were, no doubt, the main reasons for fixing as early a date as possible, for the restoration of the Native administration. On the other hand, the little prospect that existed, at the time of placing the present Rajah on the *Musnud*, of rendering his Government either secure or respectable, by leaving the administration to Native functionaries, was the cause of the assumption of the Government, by the British Resident, and that on which his arrangements received the sanction of the Supreme Government. The effects of these arrangements have, in every respect, been beneficial, nor has there been any material innovation introduced into the Native system, calculated to obstruct the restoration of the Native Government, except the spirit in which it has been administered; a spirit of purity and justice, which must be preserved, if such a restoration is intended as a real benefit, either to the Prince or his people. The revenue has improved, and is improving; it is collected with facility, and the amount of it does not burthen the people to a degree that would check their industry, or prevent the accumulation of capital. It is also collected

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at an expence not exceeding the authorized charges of the *Marhatta* management, and much below what was annually extracted from the people, by bribery and extortion, and it may safely be asserted, that in no part of the Company's dominions, is there a greater degree of security, both to person and property, of purity in the Native officers, of revenue, justice, and police, or of freedom from all kinds of oppression and exaction, than in the *Nagpore* territories.

On the other hand, the civil and military expences of the Government are as low as they can well be, with reference to the extent of territory and other circumstances, and the Rajah and his Court are provided for on a scale rather suited to the former state of the *Nagpore* Government, than to the present contracted amount of its revenue.

The total amount of that revenue collected for the last year, was forty-seven lacks, forty-five thousand, three hundred and seventy-nine rupees, ten annas, seven and one quarter pies. The civil charges, under every head connected with the administration of the country, were *nine lacks, three thousand, five hundred and twenty-six rupees, one anna, five and one quarter pies; the military charges were, eighteen lacks, ninety thousand, two hundred and twenty-nine rupees, four annas, six and a half pies. The expences of the religious establishments, *Jagheers*, and pensions of the Rajah and his Court, were sixteen lacks, seventy thousand, four hundred and four rupees, six annas, ten and one quarter pies, leaving a balance of two lacks, eighty-one thousand, two hundred and twenty rupees, and one quarter pie, of the receipts above the expenditure.

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*Of this amount, only one hundred and eighty-eight thousand, seven hundred and forty-eight rupees, is expended on the British Agency.

No reduction, but rather an increase of the expences of management, must be expected, when the country is restored to the Rajah. It is true, that some of those persons who are now pensioners, would be brought into employ, and their pensions be considered as payments for effective services; but if this were done beyond bringing forward the heads of departments, who are at present on the shelf, the public service would be rather burthened, than relieved by such an addition of hands. We have employed most of the officers of the old government, who were wanted, or qualified for the effective management of the country, and they are barely well paid. The British Superintendents, too, are not remunerated on a scale proportionate to their duties and responsibility, or according to what would be the emoluments of Native rulers of provinces, and their extra expences to the Government. However we might try to keep the Rajah to the lowest scale in such expences, it would hardly be possible to prevent the influx of the old *Mootsuddees* in one shape or other, and, indeed, it would very much diminish the satisfaction of the Rajah himself, in coming into the full exercise of authority, if there were no field for providing for the numerous expectants who would beset him, and if the actual revenue did not, as it could not, suffice for these purposes, we should find it difficult to prevent the return of the old abuses by the mere exercise of general advice, or even partial superintendance.

The military expences cannot be much reduced, without diminishing the efficiency of the Rajah's army, and its use for purposes of internal administration, as well as its fitness for standing in the place of the subsidiary force, should its services be required elsewhere, or for aiding the latter in any operations of war. We have a right to look to such aid from the state of *Nagpore;* and on the other hand, to have our own troops spared every military duty, which is not strictly of a general protective nature. This can only be done by maintaining the Rajah's forces on their present footing. Taking

Taking all these circumstances into consideration, and the prospects of yearly improvement under the present system, it can hardly be a question whether it will not be wise to protract the restoration of the Native administration to the period that may be requisite, to enable the state of *Nagpore* to stand on its own bottom, as far as its internal government is concerned; and we have the power, under our present system, of enabling it to do so, if we are not too hasty in tying up our own hands. We are the guardians of the Rajah and of the people, and to neither should we do justice, if we withdrew the benefits of our guardianship, as long as it was really required. It is not merely on a question of the comparative merits of a Native and British administration, that the delay in the transfer is recommended, it is to avoid placing the Rajah in a situation of difficulty in the outset, by securing to him a surplus revenue which would enable him to meet the extra demands to which he would be exposed, without endangering the permanency of his tenure, or the relapse of the country and the people into the state from which we have rescued them. In five or six years more, there ought to be, at least, twenty-five lacks of rupees in the treasury, and the present annual surplus would probably be augmented, so as to cover the extra charges arising out of the transfer, without the risk of failure.

With these views, the executive administration ought to remain five or six years more on its present footing; and the Rajah, at twenty-four or twenty-five years of age would, if ever, be fully competent to the charge of the Government.

Secondly. With regard to the measures to be adopted preparatory to any transfer of the powers of Government to the Rajah. The first step which may be commenced upon, in a year or two hence, appears to be to prepare his Highness's mind for the part he will have to perform, by

submitting to him abstracts of the general proceedings which have taken place in the different departments of the Government, during his minority. The Resident might explain these accounts to him, and lead him to form correct notions on every subject. In the mean time, the general system of administration might be conducted, and partially new modelled, with referrence to the ultimate changes in view.

In the revenue department, a person should be selected to qualify himself for the duties of Minister of Revenue, and his first business should be, to make himself acquainted with the records of the department, both generally and in detail, and to study our actual proceedings, by accompanying the Superintendent of the *Nagpore* district, for some seasons, in his tours, and participating in his settlements.

The offices of *Sudder Phurnaveese* and *Wurar Pandia*, should again be placed in activity, and the system of their accounts respectively adapted, under the joint direction of the Minister elect and the Superintendent, to the actual course of business in the Superintendent's *Cutchery*. The forms of their accounts should contain, at once, the detailed information conveyed by the *Pergunnah* deputies to that *Cutchery*, and the compressed abstracts, at present submitted, monthly and yearly to the Resident.

Short and simple rules should be prescribed to the heads of these offices, for the direction of their proceedings, and combined with those actually in force for the *Pergunnah* servants, digested into a Code of Regulations for the Revenue department. Any recurrence to the intricate and entangled system of the *Mahratta* Government, should be discountenanced, as the source of that confusion intended for, and applied to purposes of corruption, deception, and oppression. Severe penalties should be enacted against any deviation from these rules, and, above all, the Minister of Revenue

nue and the Rajah should be impressed with the necessity of enforcing them, and discountenancing any individual, of whatever rank or station, who might be disposed to violate them directly or indirectly.

It would not be advisable to divide, in any manner, for the present, the responsibility vested in the Superintendent under the Resident, the immediate object being merely to pave the way for the future transfer of the revenue management, by introducing a double system of accounts, in the higher departments, one to go to the Rajah through the Minister of that department, and by laying down, as decidedly as practicable, the rules to be followed when the actual transfer shall take place, so that the Rajah, and his Ministers and Court, may be previously familiarized with the contemplation of their duties and obligations.

The city collections and treasury, should remain as at present, under a British officer, the accounts being furnished to the Rajah, as well as to the Resident, and rules established for these departments, and incorporated with the Revenue Code.

The supreme authority in judicial matters, both for the city and district of *Nagpore* or *Deogurh* below the *Ghauts*, might be at once vested in the Court now held at the palace, in which GOOJABA presides with one of the Resident's assistants. The Rajah might continue to attend this Court, for the attainment of some knowledge and experience in judicial business; but it would probably be preferable, when it sits either as a Court of Primary Jurisdiction, or as a Court of Appeal from the district or city authorities, that he should not be considered as a judge. It can hardly be expected that the Rajah either would or could devote the necessary time and attention to the occupation, or that if he did, not acting under the penalties impending over subordinate judges, he should not suffer himself

to

to be biassed and swayed by favor on his part, ministering to the corruption of his courtiers. The right of pardoning is the only princely prerogative, in the executive administration of justice. The Rajah should be allowed to exercise this prerogative, with the advice of the Resident and his Council, as well as to confirm the capital sentences of the Supreme Court, and to receive and judge finally on appeals from it in civil cases. If the written proceedings, as they ought to be, should be sufficiently full and conclusive, this might be done by his Highness in Council, on a simple perusal of them, but should any thing be wanting, the Court should be ordered to revise its proceedings, or give the parties a fresh hearing. There can be no case in which it is necessary for the Rajah directly to preside in a trial, and it will be more likely to induce on his part, a vigilant enforcement of impartial justice if he is precluded from taking a personal share in the executive part of it.

Of the judicial powers at present vested in the Superintendent, he should only retain, in civil cases, the primary cognizance of suits connected with the land or revenue, and the decision of appeals from the judgments of *Kumaishdars*, who should still retain the jurisdiction vested in them with regard to civil suits, but whom it would be inconvenient to subject to a double authority. In criminal cases, it would be also convenient to leave to the Superintendent, all cases of theft, to whatever amount, simple burglary, receiving stolen goods, and arson; indeed all crimes excepting murder, rape, *Dacoity*, robbery, and burglary, attended with aggravating circumstances. All civil suits, with the exceptions above named, and all criminal cases of the higher order, should be referred directly to the Supreme Court, and the monthly reports and registers of the cases decided by the Superintendent and the *Kumaishdars*, should be sent by the former to the same tribunal to which appeals should lie from the Superintendent's decisions, through the Resident.

The

The police, both of the country and the city, should remain, for the present, under the British Superintendents.

Regulations for civil and criminal justice, and for police, should be framed and promulgated.

These regulations, as well as the revenue code, should be issued, in the first instance, under the joint authority of the British Government and of the Rajah; they should be frequently read to the Rajah, and should be circulated as extensively as possible throughout the country, and explained publicly at stated intervals, and in the most convenient places, for the hearing of all the people.

When these arrangements shall have appeared to impress the officers of Government with a due sense of the rules and obligations under which they will have to perform their duties under the Rajah, and the people with a proper degree of confidence, that we are resolved still to watch over their welfare, there will be no difficulty in withdrawing, either gradually, or at once, our direct management of the civil affairs of the state. The arguments against a gradual transfer arising from the minute connection of the different departments in all their ramifications, seem to me to predominate over the advantages of such a mode of proceeding: the preparatory measures which have been sketched, would also render it, in a great measure, unnecessary. The only two departments which might be ultimately excepted, are the General Treasury and the Mint. The objects of retaining the former are connected with another branch of the present enquiry, and the reasons for reserving the latter, have been already stated in the Resident's letter to the Secretary in the Political Department, under date the 15th November, 1823.

One branch of the public expenditure has, for some time past, been entrusted to the Regent GOOJABA, viz. the payment of the household expences, the pension list, and other establishments connected with the dignity and comfort of the Rajah and his family. The Rajah may now be considered to be of age enough, to entitle him to some degree of authority over these departments, subject only as to the details, to the advice and suggestions of the BAEE and GOOJABA, and in the total amount of his expences, to the control of the Resident, as heretofore. That this control cannot be withdrawn, for the present, is evident.

The time of making the final transfer of the executive administration of revenue, justice, and police, has already been specified.

Thirdly. With respect to the arrangements recommended for placing the Rajah in the commanding position, requisite to give dignity and efficiency to his authority, when it shall be restored to him, and the steps to be taken for securing the beneficial exercise of it.

The two points here mentioned together are of the greatest importance and difficulty, viz. how to combine the efficiency of the Native administration with the checks on our part, requisite to prevent serious abuses.

The modes of interference which we can exercise, without assuming directly the management of the country, appear to be advice and remonstrance addressed to the Prince himself, or dictating to him the choice of Ministers; and, combined with either or both of the former, the appointment of Supervisors, whose business should be to watch over the conduct of the agents of the local Government, and to convey to the authority which employs them, reports of all abuses and complaints, requiring reform and redress. A distinction,

A distinction, perhaps, might be drawn as to the cases to which these several degrees of interference might be applied separately or combined. Where the Prince himself shewed both capacity and inclination to govern well, simple advice and remonstrance, which would be seldom called for, might suffice. If the Prince were incapable or ill disposed, personal advice and remonstrance would be thrown away, and the only course would be to set up or support a Minister who would perform our wishes. Where, again, the abuses in the Government were too deeply rooted to be thus prevented or eradicated, or where the accomplishment of our views through the Minister, was liable to be thwarted, owing to his own timidity, want of sincerity, or of consideration in the country, or from other causes; or where a system of reform, or one *de novo* was prescribed, which would be liable to miscarry, if not rigidly watched; in such cases the farther step of appointing European Supervisors might be resorted to.

The actual system in *Mysore*, and at *Sattarah*, corresponds, I believe, with the first supposition; that adopted at *Hyderabad*, at one time, was the second, and is now the third. In *Mysore* the plan of Government established was, at first, confided to a Minister, who did not disappoint our expectations, from leaving him unshackled, and the Rajah, on coming of age, succeeded to the same independent authority. At *Sattarah*, the original Government was shared nominally, between a Minister and the Resident, though the latter was a preponderating authority, and the administration was made over to the Rajah, on his attaining the age of twenty-five years, in the confidence arising from his disposition and conduct, that he would persevere in the ameliorated principles of rule, which the Resident had introduced.

There can be no doubt that if we could place similar confidence in the Rajah of *Nagpore*, it would be the course to be preferred, before any continuation

continuation of immediate interference, after we have given over to him the executive administration of his country. We might choose for him, of course, his first Minister, and insist upon the observance of the Regulations we might have established, continuing, for a time, a system of European Superintendence similar to that at *Hyderabad*, and maintaining the different subordinate Native officers employed under us, in their respective stations, during their good behaviour. We might regulate our future measures according to those of the Rajah, always bearing in mind that the beneficial exercise of power by him, would be best ensured by the prospect, on the one hand, of the consequence and independence it would preserve to him, and on the other, of the certain loss of both under a different line of conduct; and that our direct interference, whilst it both dimmed the former, and involved the latter, however partially, would be the sure forerunner of calls for more decided inroads on the power we wished to cherish in the hands of the Rajah. At the same time, however we might act, it would be desirable to maintain in the treaty, all the stipulations which authorize every degree of interference, in the event of misconduct on the part of the Rajah, and this might be considered as the general operative check.

A land revenue settlement for five years at least, might also be made, under the guarantee of the British Government, and in the best cultivated *Purgunnahs*, the term ought to be extended to ten years. This would give confidence to the inhabitants, and narrow the field for the possible return to old abuses and exactions, on the part of the Government.

There is one point, however, which must affect materially, the pride which we wish the Rajah to take in the good government of his country, and, consequently, the realization of our hopes from the system which we propose to establish.

To

To the Princes of *Mysore* and *Sattarah*, are entrusted the military force of their country. Insulated as their possessions are, within the dominions of the Honorable Company, such a trust could not well be abused, and in the hands of the latter chief, the power it confers, is indeed insignificant. At *Nagpore*, from the extent and position of the country, and the habits and character of a large portion of the inhabitants, it is decided that the military force shall be exclusively under the British Government, and the Rajah can only be allowed to maintain such a number of men, as may be requisite for the maintenance of his personal respectability, and for the efficient exercise of his authority in the city, and the portion of country which is to be restored to his immediate administration.

For these purposes, a battalion of five hundred infantry, regularly equipped and clothed, and with a couple of light guns, under a Native Commandant; the present corps of *Rohillas*, who perform the internal duties of the palace; five hundred horse, including the *Pagah*, the police corps in the city, and the *Seebundees*, now employed for purposes of police and collection in the country, would probably suffice.

The development of the Rajah's character, under the preparatory system which has been suggested, will furnish the means of judging, how far he can be trusted. Should, however, his personal disposition and abilities render him disqualified for the higher degree of confidence that it would be desirable to give him, it might be a question whether his relative, GOOJABA, could not stand in his place, administering the Government in reality, whilst every appearance was preserved of its being vested directly in the Rajah.

GOOJABA, probably possesses the ability, necessary for this purpose;

 he

he has been in the habits of acting in concert with us, and has always professed the most favorable disposition to conform to our directions. His chief failing is in placing too much confidence in those about him, and he is not without a spirit of avarice and rapacity. He has certainly mismanaged the household, and he has, in other respects, been an unfaithful deputy of the regent BAKA BAEE, owing to his attachment to another of the late RUGHOJEE's wives, AMBIKA BAEE; he has encouraged the Rajah to transfer much of his attention and obedience to the latter, and whilst professing entire submission to the lady, under whom he engaged to act, he has given her many grounds of disgust. There have not been wanting fomenters of these family dissentions, and in a matter of such delicacy, it has been difficult to settle the various points of difference, which have arisen, without on the one hand, widening the breach, and on the other, interfering in a degree which would disgust GOOJABA, who, after all, is the only efficient personage in the regency, and in other respects, involving serious inconveniences. Not the least of these would be, that the authority taken from GOOJABA would pass, not into the hands of the BAEE, but of her favorites; and if inconveniences of minor concern are, as they must, be tolerated to avoid greater evils, it is better that GOOJABA should be supported against the cabals of inferior agents, than that the BAEE should be the tool of persons who would abuse her authority, much more than GOOJABA contravenes it. No efforts have been wanting, of exhortation and advice to both parties, to reconcile their differences, and to GOOJABA, of injunctions to pay implicit deference to the orders of the BAEE, but they have had little effect in satisfying her, and perhaps not much in influencing permanently GOOJABA's proceedings. The establishment of the Rajah in his authority over the household, is the only means of putting an end to these disputes, and when this is done, we shall probably find it expedient to make him provide separately for the BAEES, and for GOOJABA, who will hardly be content to depend for their future

future support solely on the uncertain tenure of the Rajah's favor, or his sense of justice and propriety.

Fourthly. With regard to the portions of the territory, which are to be assigned to the Rajah, and those to be retained under British officers.

If the suggestion offered, relative to the period to which it is desirable to prolong the British superintendance of the whole country be adopted, it is unnecessary here to discuss, with any minuteness, the question above proposed. It is presumed that three points will be attended to, in making the transfer of districts to the Rajah, if any are to be withheld. The first is, that only the best cultivated districts will be made over, in the first instance, and others as they attain their maximum of assessment. The second, that the whole territory assigned to the Rajah, shall be as compact as possible, and the third, that all the *Gond* and other *Zemindarees* shall remain under the authority of British officers. These principles would confine the Rajah's immediate share to the portion of territory extending east to west, between the *Wurda* and *Wyne Gunga*, and bounded north and south by *Deogurh* above the *Ghauts* and *Chanda*. Four separate jurisdictions would remain under British officers; viz. *Deogurh* above the *Ghauts*, *Langhee*, and its dependent *Zemindarees*, *Chanda*, and *Chutteesgurh*.

It may be asked when it is to be expected that any, or all of these excepted provinces can be transferred to Native management. The answer, with regard to the *Khalsa* portion, ought to be, "as the different *Pergunnahs* are restored to a proper degree of prosperity;" but this answer must be modified by the consideration of the scattered points, over which the direct authority of the Rajah would thus be gradually extended. As to the *Zemindarries*, no delay can be expected to prepare the way for their

their being given over, or to remove the present objections to the measure. The necessity of interposing the British authority, between the Native administration, and this class of subjects or dependents, is not less pressing here, than in *Malwa*, and in some respects, more so, when the great extent of the country, the distance of some points from the seat of Government, and the peculiarly wild character of the *Zemindaree* population, are considered.

If, therefore, the restitution of the whole country to the direct authority of the Rajah, should be contemplated, as an object of general policy, outweighing the advantages of increased revenue, which might be derived from retaining the excepted districts for a period, after the partial transfer, the preparatory arrangements suggested for the *Nagpore* district, might, with equal advantage, be applied to the rest, and at the expiration of the probationary term of five or six years, the *Khalsa* management of the latter might be made over with the former. It would, in that case, be requisite to keep British officers in each quarter, as at present, for the special purpose of conducting all the affairs of the *Zemindarrees*, in communication with the local authorities and the Resident; and even in the civil affairs of the *Khalsa* lands, a degree of watchful superintendence might also be deemed requisite, proportionate to the removal of the Native officers from under the immediate eye of the administration at the capital. The chief authorities in these districts would, necessarily, be of a superior rank to the mere collectors of *Pergunnahs* near the capital, of which the direct management would rest with the Minister and with higher powers; but in the same proportion would the chances of abuse be multiplied, and correspondent checks be required.

Fifthly. As to the best mode of providing for the due payment of the military establishments, which will remain under the Resident.

Under

Under a partial transfer of the country to the Rajah, there are two modes in which this object might be satisfactorily accomplished, with regard to the security at least, of the funds for the payment of the troops. Either we might retain the general treasury, for the receipt of all the collections of the country, under a British officer, as at present, or the country reserved by us, being adequate to produce the annual amount of funds required, the British Superintendents might remit the produce of their districts directly into the Resident's treasury, after paying the troops on the spot, and that of the Rajah be left entirely to his own officers.

The difficulty in the latter arrangement, would be so to adjust the partition of territory, as to keep in our own hands the requisite portion, and to give the Rajah enough for all the expences of his Government. If this could be done, however, it might appear preferable to the former mode, as leaving the Rajah entirely dependent on his own economy and good management, and not imposing upon him the discouraging burthen of regular payments to us. It would also give us the surest guarantee against failure in this important article; though the former mode of keeping the general treasury of the state, in our own hands, would be equally satisfactory in this respect. One or other of these plans seems to be indespensable, whether a part or whole of the territory is given up, until we have the means of deciding on the safety of trusting to the Rajah for the payment of the military establishment.

Indeed, the maintenance of the present system of the general and provincial treasuries, the issue of every disbursement out of them, and them only, and an absolute prohibition of any recurrence to the old plan of assignments on the *Purgunnahs*, or of anticipation of the revenues, in any shape, are indispensably required, and the success or failure of the Rajah's financial management, under the transferrence of the whole, or

any part of his dominions, can only be judged of, with reference to the state of the treasuries, to which, and to the general accounts of the receipts and disbursements, we ought, in any case, to be allowed constant access.

To sum up the result of the above discussions in a few propositions, it is recommended—

First. That the Rajah be immediately placed in the efficient exercise of his authority over the expenditure of the household, &c. Subject, perhaps, at present, to the advice of the BAEE and GOOJABA, as to the details, and to the control of the Resident, as to its general amount.

Secondly. That the general administration of the country, remain under the Resident, for five or six years more, with the modification suggested in the Judicial Department, for the districts immediately contiguous to the capital.

Thirdly. That the several preparatory arrangements suggested, be adopted with regard to the formation of simple but precise regulations for all the departments of the state, and their promulgation throughout the country; and for the instruction of the Rajah and his Ministers, in the system to be permanently acted upon.

Fourthly. That at the expiration of five or six years, the administration of the whole of the territories be transferred to the Rajah, under the provisions necessary for ensuring the welfare of the people. These provisions, besides the general powers of check, and eventual resumption reserved by treaty, and revenue settlement for as long a term as practicable, should be the immediate appointment, in the first instance, of the Minister and functionaries throughout the country, the temporary employment

employment of British officers, in the several departments at the Capital, as Supervisors, to be gradually withdrawn, and their permanent continuance in the management of the *Zemindars*, as well as supervision over the proceedings of the Native heads of provinces, at a distance from the capital ; finally, the reservation of the treasury, under our immediate charge, until we shall be convinced that it may be given over without endangering the regular payment of the military establishment, remaining under the British Government.

APPENDIX, No. 1

MEMORANDUM OF RATES OF WAGES AND HIRE OF LABOR AT NAGPORE.

		MONTHLY.				DAILY.		
CARPENTERS,..	Mistrees,.....	10	0	0	....	0	5	0
	Common,.....	7	0	0	....	0	4	0
Stone Cutters,.....	Headman,.....	10	0	0	....	0	5	0
	Workmen, ...	7	0	0	....	0	4	0
Raj Mistrees,.....	Bricklayers,.....	10	0	0	....	0	5	0
	Workmen,.....	7	0	0	....	0	4	0
Lohars,.....	Mistrees,.....	7	0	0	....	0	4	0
	Hammermen,.....	5	0	0	....	0	2	6
	Firemen,.....	4	0	0	....	0	2	0
	Ditto,.....	3	0	0	....	0	1	6
Zeengurs,.....	Sadlers,.....	7	8	0	....	0	4	0
Painters,.....	.....	7	8	0	....	0	4	0
Gilders,.....	.....	10	0	0	....	0	5	0
Putwas,.....	Silk-workers,.....	7	8	0	....	0	4	0
Boorurs,.....	Bamboo-workers,.....	6	0	0	....	0	3	0
Koomhars,.....	Filers,.....	7	8	0	....	0	4	0
								Day

		MONTHLY.				DAILY.		
Day Laborers,	Able-bodied men,	4	0	0	....	0	2	0
	Women,	2	0	0	....	0	1	0
	Boys,	3	0	0	....	0	1	6
Cyces,		6	0	0				
		4	0	0	and food.			
		3	8	0	ditto.			
Grass Cutters,		5	0	0				
		1	8	0	and food.			
Khidmutgars,		5	0	0				
		4	0	0				
		2	0	0	and food.			
		1	0	0	ditto.			
Buwarchees,		7	0	0				
	Cooking by contract,	2	to	3	Rs. per Khundee.			
Shootur Sarwans,		10	0	0				
Carriage Bullocks,		8	0	0	....	0	5	0
Hackeries, two Bullocks,		15	0	0	....	0	8	0
Hackery Drivers,		4	0	0				
		3	0	0				
Cowherds,		4, or 8 As. per mensem, for each head of cattle.						
Kamathees,	Inferior Household Servants,	5	0	0				
		3	0	0	and food.			
	Theeka,	0	0	0	....	0	2	0
Bearers,	Nagpooree Sirdars,	6	These men always ask 8 As. each per diem, when employed by the day.					
	Carriers,	5						
	Purdessees,	8						
	Ditto,	6						

Tailors,

		MONTHLY.	DAILY.
Tailors,		7 8 0	0 4 0
Khemadozes,	Tent Makers,	7 8 0	0 4 0
Mahouts,		10 to 15 Rs. and two meals.	
Elephant Colies,		4 0 0 ditto.	
Nalbunds,		5 0 0	
Mushalchees,		4 0 0	0 3 0
Dhobees,		4 to 6 Rupees.	
Ghurree-wallas, who strike the hours,		5 0 0	
Noubut Nuwazes,		6 to 12 Rupees.	
Juwahs,	or Surgeons,	10 0 0	
Chattawallahs,		6 0 0	
Gardeners,		3 to 10 Rupees.	
Bhistees,		5 0 0	
Pukalees,	with Bullocks,	8 0 0	
Sweepers,		4 0 0	
Cultivators,		2 8 0	
Burkundauzes,	Duffedars,	10 0 0	
	Hawuldars,	6 0 0	
Burkundauzes,		5 0 0	
Hirkarus,		4 0 0	
Bareedars,		3 to 5 Rupees.	

PRICE CURRENT.

			Rs.	As.	Ps.
Wheat,	Howree,	per Khundee,	4	8	0
„	Moolk Kuthe,	„	4	4	0
Baggur, (unhusked rice,)	Ramkel,	„	7	0	0
	Ditto coarse,	„	6	8	0
	Ditto fine,	„	7	8	0

Baggur,

				Rs.	As.	Ps.
Baggur, (unhusked rice,)	Peesore,	per Khundee,		7	8	0
„ „	Chuttree,	„		9	0	0
„ „	Buree,	„		5	8	0
„ „	Selo,	„		6	0	0
Gram,	Moolkee Kothee,	„		4	8	0
„	Ditto Bareek,	„		4	4	0
Juwaree,		„		3	8	0
Moong,		„		5	0	0
Oorud,		„		4	4	0
Lak,		„		3	8	0
Buttana,		„		3	8	0
Mussoor,		„		3	4	0
Toor Dal, (split Toor,) old,		„		8	8	0
„ (ditto,) new,		„		7	0	0
Gram ditto, (split Gram,)		„		6	0	0
Moong ditto, (split Moong,)		„		5	0	0
Oorud ditto, (split Oorud,)		„		4	4	0
Lak ditto, (split Lak,)		„		4	4	0
Buttana ditto, (split Buttana,)		„		4	4	0
Musoor ditto, (split Musoor,)		„		4	0	0
Rice,	Ramkel,	21	Pylee per	1	0	0
„	Bareek,	20	„	1	0	0
„	Rasee,	23	„	1	0	0
„	Chuttree,	16	„	1	0	0
„	Chinnowree,	14	„	1	0	0
Atta,		37½	Seers,	1	0	0
Myda,		30	„	1	0	0
Ulsee,	Roughe,	per Khundee,		5	12	0
„	Kute,	„		5	8	0
Goor,	Bhela,	„		35	0	0

Goor,

			Rs.	As.	Ps.
Goor,	Bhela Rasee,	per Khundee,	30	0	0
„	Hulka,	„	27	0	0
„	Battee,	„	35	0	0
„	Battee Mudhim,	„	30	0	0
„	Ditto Niris,	„	27	8	0
Salt,		„	27	8	0
„	Kharee,	„	17	8	0
„	Ditto,	„	15	0	0
Ghee,	Wyraghur,	per Maund of 12 Seers,	4	0	0
„	Moolk Pukkee,	„	3	12	0
„	Dongurthal,	„	3	10	0
„	Ghattee,	„	3	8	0
Parched Rice,		15¼ Seers per	1	0	0
Ludhoo Kootkee, (a kind of Sweetmeat,)		per Khundee,	30	0	0

Note.	A Khundee contains .... 20 Cooroos.	A Pylee weighs	100 Rupees.
	A Cooroo ..... 8 Pylees.	A Seer „	80 „

APPENDIX, No. 2.

ILLUSTRATION OF THE MODE OF ASSESSMENT.

IT is necessary to premise, that increase of rent arising from land newly brought into cultivation, is called *Potwar*, that arising from an advance in the rent of the *T,hok* field, in the *Aeen* of the *Chal* lands, or from a transfer from the *T,hok* to the *Chal Surawurtala*. Decrease from lands falling out of cultivation, is denominated *Pur*, that from a diminution in the rent of *T,hok* fields, or from a reduction in the *Aeen* of the *Chal* lands, *Bad*.

Let it be supposed then, that in the year 1231, there were one hundred and ten cultivated fields in the village of *Hingna*, of which six were *T,hok*, and one hundred and four *Chal*, that of the *T,hok* fields, two were let at thirty rupees each; two at forty rupees each; and two at sixty rupees each, making a total of two hundred and sixty rupees: further, that the total *Aeen* of the one hundred and four *Chal* fields was twelve rupees, or one hundred and ninety-two annas, divided into shares of different value, amongst the contractors for the *Chal* fields. Assuming the total land assessment to be five thousand rupees, the *Dhara* on each anna of the *Aeen*, would be rupees 5000-260=4740÷192=rupees 24-11.

Again, let it be supposed, that at the *Istimalut* of 1232, the following charges were made. Of the six *T,hok* fields, one of those let the preceding

 year

year at thirty rupees, remained unengaged, the other continuing at its former rent, as likewise the two that had yielded forty rupees each; of those given formerly, at sixty rupees each, the one was included amongst the *Chal* fields, *(T,hok Dakhili Chal)* at an *Aeen* of three annas, and the other remained *T,hok*, at a rent advanced to sixty-five rupees. Of the *Chal* fields, two, the aggregate *Aeen*, of which the preceding year had been four annas, were transferred to the *T,hok (Chal Dakhili T,hok)* at the rent of forty rupees, and thirty rupees respectively. An increase on the *Aeen* of certain fields, was obtained to the amount of six annas; and a decrease of three annas occurred in others; and lastly, one field out of cultivation the preceding year, was newly engaged for and included in the *T,hok*, at a rent of fifteen rupees.

In 1232, therefore, the number of *T,hok* fields is seven, namely; one remaining at the former rent of thirty rupees, and two at forty rupees each; another of last year, at a rent increased from sixty rupees to sixty-five rupees; two transferred from the *Chal*, and rented at thirty rupees, and forty rupees respectively; and one newly brought into cultivation, at a rent of fifteen rupees. The total being two hundred and sixty rupees, as in the former year.

The number of *Chal* fields is one hundred and three, and the *Aeen* of them stands thus: Annas 192-4-3=185+3+6=194.

In this settlement, the *Potwar* is fifteen rupees for one field newly brought into cultivation. The *Surrawurtala*, is one hundred and sixty-seven rupees and three annas, namely, five rupees advance in the rent of a *T,hok* field; the difference between sixty rupees, the rent of a *T,hok* field, and seventy-four rupees and one anna, the value of three annas *Chal*, at the former years *Dhara* of twenty-four rupees and eleven annas; and one hundred and

and forty-eight rupees and two annas, being the advance of six annas *Aeen*, also at the former *Dhara*. The total increase, therefore, is one hundred and eight-two rupees and three annas.

The *Pur* is thirty rupees, the rent of one *T'hok* field, left uncultivated. The *Bad* is one hundred and two rupees and thirteen annas; namely twenty-eight rupees and twelve annas; the loss in the rent of two fields of four annas, transferred from the *Chal* to the *T'hok*, at a rent of seventy rupees, and seventy-four rupees one anna, the reduction in the *Aeen* of three annas. The total decrease being one hundred and thirty-two rupees, thirteen annas, and less than the increase by forty-nine rupees six annas.

Two *Chal* fields of four annas *Aeen*.
Dhara 24-11=rs. 98 12
Let at ... ... „ 70 0
28 12
Three annas *Aeen* at a *Dhara* of rupees 24-11 = 74-1

If all these *Istimalut* changes are recognized by the Government, and the rate kept the same as the preceding year, the assessment would stand thus. Rent of the *T'hok* lands, two hundred and sixty rupees; rent of the *Chal* lands, four thousand, seven hundred and eighty-nine rupees, six annas; that is, one hundred and ninety-four annas of *Aeen*, at the former *Dhara* of twenty-four rupees and eleven annas. The total, five thousand and forty-nine rupees six annas. In this case, every portion of *Chal* land, excepting those in the rent of which a specific alteration was made at the settlement, is assessed at precisely the same sum as it was the former year, whilst the total village assessment is changed.

If the Government recognize the *Istimalut* changes, but does not regulate the amount of assessment by them, the rate would be changed; that is, if instead of five thousand and forty-nine rupees six annas, six thousand rupees is demanded, the *T'hok* fields would pay as before, two hundred and sixty rupees; but the *Chal* ones, five thousand seven hundred and forty rupees, the *Dhara* being now rupees five thousand seven hundred and forty÷194=rupees 29-9. In this case, each portion of *Chal* lands would

would pay exactly the same it did the former year, with the addition of its proportionate share of the increase, being four rupees and fourteen annas on each anna of the *Aeen.*

If the Government does not recognize the changes made at the *Istimalut,* still the apportionment of the assessment, as then settled, remains undisturbed, as the amount of any decrease not recognized is assessed on the whole *Chal* fields, and alters the *Dhara;* for instance, if the *Bad,* one hundred and two rupees and thirteen annas be not admitted, the amount is not re-assessed on the fields, from the rents of which it was originally deducted; but it is levied from the whole, and would raise the *Dhara* from twenty-four rupees and eleven annas to twenty-five rupees twelve annas and a half. In this case, changes in the assessment of any one portion affect the whole, by changing the *Dhara,* or rate of assessment, and as it seldom, or indeed never occurs, that the whole *Istimalut* changes are recognized by the Government, at the same time that the whole assessment of the year, can be collected in exact conformity with the original apportionment. It may be stated generally, that the rent of every portion of *Chal* land is constantly subject to alterations, in consequence not only of fluctuations in the amount of the Government demand, but likewise from changes in the rent of other portions of land, arising out of each new *Istimalut* apportionment of the assessment, as also from defalcations occurring in the collection of it.

It may also be remarked, that uniformity in the amount of the village assessment, is not only unaccompanied with uniformity in the rents of the portions into which the land is divided, but is absolutely incompatible with it, unless it were possible to remove the causes that render changes in the yearly apportionment of the assessment necessary, as likewise to ensure the realization of the assessment, in strict agreement with such apportionment.

APPENDIX, No. 3.

LIST OF TAXES, COMING UNDER THE HEAD OF SAEER, SEEWAEE, PANDRY, &c.

FIRST. Taxes in the shape of rent.

1st. *Tulao Singaree*—included in the *Seewaee* collections; is a tax paid for the right to cultivate the *Singara** in tanks.

2d. *Muchee Doh*—included in the *Seewaee*. A tax paid by fishermen for the exclusive privilege of fishing in particular places.

3rd. *Doongur Waree*—included in the *Seewaee*. A tax on melon beds.

4th. *Ranwa*—in the *Seewaee*. A tax for certain grass meadows.

5th. *Mohran*—included in the *Seewaee;* is a tax on *Mohwa,*† trees belonging to Government.

6th. *Bheer*—included in the *Seewaee*. Tax for grazing on waste lands belonging to the Government.

7th. *Bhanwikree*, or *Sindbund*—in the *Seewaee*. A tax on wild date trees, which produce a spirituous liquor.

8th. *Gain Ghana Gen*—in the *Seewaee*. A tax levied on certain rent-free villages.

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* Trapa Natans. † Bassia Latifolia.

9th. *Khet Wuttee*—included in the *Seewaee.* Rent of certain *Enaum* fields, the proprietor of which died without heirs.

10th. *Dookan Bhara*—in the *Seewaee.* The rent of certain shops, the property of Government.

11th. *Khan Muttee* and *Khan Puther*—in the *Seewaee.* Rents from quarries of stone, and a particular kind of earth employed in making vessels.

Second. Poll Taxes.

1st. *Kotwaree* and *Turraree*—in the *Seewaee.* A tax paid by *Kotwars* and *Turrars*, for their offices.

2d. *Hurkee*—included in the *Seewaee.* A tax paid by *Dhers*, for the right to all carcases of dead cattle.

3d. *Meyerkee*—in the *Seewaee.* A small tax payable in one *Pergunnah* only by the *Setya*, or chief of the tribe of *Telees*, on his appointment.

4th. *Naj Googree*—in the *Seewaee.* A small tax on each *Putel;* it was originally paid in grain, but now in money.

5th. *War Puttee*—in the *Seewaee.* A tax on *Warkurees*, who lend out small sums of money.

6th. *Bukker Kusaee*—in the *Seewaee.* A tax on sheep butchers.

7th. *Til Dan*—included in the *Seewaee.* A tax on oil pressers.

8th. *Race Dhankaee*—in the *Seewaee.* A tax on cotton carders.

9th. *Wangee Goorh Ghana*—in the *Seewaee.* A tax on sugar presses.

10th. *Soor Dan*—in the *Seewaee.* A tax on village musicians.

11th. *Ghur Baree*—included in the *Pandry.* A tax of from two to five pies on all houses, with the exception of those occupied by some particular casts, as *Bramins, &c.*

12th. *Katta Puttee*—included in the *Pandry.* A tax, varying from eight annas to two rupees, on the houses of weavers and thread spinners.

13th. *Dhungur Babut*—in the *Pandry.* A tax of from eight annas to one rupee, on shepherds, as manufacturers of coarse blankets.

14th.

14th. *Dhobee, Ganja, Kusaee, Babut*—Small taxes, included in the *Pandry*, on washerman, butchers, sellers of tobacco and *Ganja*

Third. Taxes on purchases and sales.

1st. *Kurtee*—included in the *Sayer.* A general duty on the sale of all articles.

2d. *Tul Burtee*—in the *Sayer.* A duty on the sale of articles for exportation, and taken only in the *Pergunnah* where the first sale is made.

3d. *Dhan Hoonda*—included in the *Sayer.* A commutation paid by *Putels* in *Pergunnah*, for the above duty; as also for that on articles in transport within the *Pergunnah.*

4th. *Dullalee*—in the *Sayer.* A duty on brokerage.

5th. *Chappah*—in the *Sayer.* Stamp-tax on the first sale of cotton cloth in the *Kusbah.*

6th. *Nya Mahl*—in the *Sayer.* A tax on weavers and oilmen in small villages, in lieu of stamp tax.

7th. *Choongee*—in the *Sayer.* A small portion, usually a hand full, taken from articles sold.

8th. *Ijaras*—In the *Sayer.*

9th. *Nukas Ghire*—in the *Seewaee.* A tax on the sale of horses.

10th. *Phootkee Babut*—in the *Sayer.*

11th. Contracts for petty collections on sales, generally given to *Putels*, to save the expences of management.

Fourth. Taxes on the exclusive sale of particular articles.

1st. *Nuskotee*—in the *Sayer.* Generally a tax for the privilege of selling tobacco in towns.

2d. *Tumbakoo Paree*—in the *Sayer.* Monopoly of snuff.

3d. *Gunja Kotee*—ditto *Sayer.* Ditto of *Ganja.*

4th. *Begur Kotee*—ditto *Sewaee.* Ditto of the brass leaf used to ornament the horns of cattle, at the *Pola* festival.

5th. *Kapus Kotee*—in the *Sewaee.* Monopoly of the purchase of the cotton

cotton given as wages to those who gather it, (in one *Pergunnah* only.)

6th. *Mohwa Kotee*—in the *Sewae.* Monopoly of the sale of the flowers of the *Mohwa* tree.

7th. *Kullalee*—in the *Sewaee.* Monopoly of the sale of arrack.

Fifth. Taxes on the import and export, and transit of articles.

1st. *Rahdaree*—in the *Sayer.* A general transit duty.

2d. *Jhenga*—in the *Saeer.* On the exportation of grain, &c.

3d. *Nikassoo*—in the *Sayer.* A duty taken on articles brought from one *Pergunnah* to another, and taken away without being sold.

Sixth. Taxes on certain civil and religious ceremonies.

1st. *Mundwa Thal*—in the *Saeer.* A tax on marriage booth.

2d. *Nuzzur Rumzanee*—in the *Sewaee.* A tax on the privilege of selling arrack during the *Rumzan.* In some of the *Berar Pergunnahs* only.

3d. *Gul Jatra*—in the *Sewaee.* A tax paid by persons who go through the religious ceremony of swinging by the hook.

4th. *Patdam*—in the *Sewaee.* A tax levied on the lower classes of *Hindoos*, on their marriage with widows.

5th. *Dhurawun*—in the *Sewaee.* Tax on licences to marry widows.

6th. *Mookhtawun ma Bettai*—Licence to widows to remain single, paid by their parents.

7th. *Shaween*—in the *Sewaee.* A tax on licences of the same description as the former, but paid by the widow herself.

8th. *Panee Pilaee*—in the *Sewaee.* A small sum paid to Government, by a widow contracting a second marriage, on quitting her own village for that of her husband.

9th. *Purthal*—in the *Sewaee.* A tax on the marriage processions of the lower classes, going to the house of the bride.

Seventh. Law taxes and fines.

1st. *Shookurana*—in the *Seewaee.* The tax on the person who gains a suit.

2d.

2d. *Zureemana*—Tax on losers of a suit.

3d. *Sand Nawel*—in the *Sewaee*. Tax on the person failing to perform engagements.

4th. *Bhat Musala*—in the *Sewaee*. Tax paid by persons summoned by *Kumarishdars*.

5th. *Goonagaree*—in the *Sewaee*. Fines for petty offences.

Eighth. Escheats.

1st. *Ghye Masoolee*—in the *Sewaee*. The amount of unclaimed property.

2d. *Moocar*—in the *Sewaee*. The property of persons dying without heirs.

Ninth. Miscellaneous.

1st. *Peshkushee Zemindaree*—in the *Sewaee*. Annual *Nuzzeer* from the *Zemindars* in the western districts.

2d. *Sirpoo Zemindaree*—in the *Sewaee*. *Nuzzurs* from *Putels* and *Zemindars*, at the *Dussera*.

3d. *Nuzzur Nanatee*—in the *Sewaee*. *Nuzzurs* from *Shroffs* on first setting up shops.

4th. *Peo Kooroo*—in the *Sewaee*. The *Pandia's* share of grain in *Khasgee* villages, which goes to the Government.

APPENDIX, No. 4.

TRANSLATION OF A FYSULNAMEH.

A CHAILA of NIRHER POOREE GOSAEEN, deceased, having given an *Urzee*, in the name of his *Gooroo*, against NARO KRISHEN, stating as follows: "That on the death of the said GOSAEEN NIRHUR POOREE, Rajah RUGHOJEE had sent the said NARO KRISHEN to place a *Zubtee* on all the property of the said GOSAEEN; that the plaintiff, in the reign of APPAH SAHIB, had obtained a reversal of that *Zubtee*, but that the defendant, in delivering over the property to the plaintiff, had retained a part to the amount of forty thousand rupees, and the plaintiff therefore prayed for the restitution of that property." We, the undersigned, were appointed by the Court of Suddur Adalut, a *Punchayut*, to investigate and decide upon the claim, and have, accordingly, done so; and our decision is as follows: NARO KRISHEN was a servant of the Government, and only obeyed its orders in seizing the property of the late NIRHUR POOREE GOSAEEN; and we find, by the records of Government, that the defendant delivered the whole of the property, together with the books of accounts, as well as all monies that he, (the defendant) recovered from the debtors of the late GOSAEEN, by those accounts, to Government. The *Chaila* of the late GOSAEEN, in the year 1227 *Fusslee*, petitioned and obtained from

Raja

Raja APPA SAHIB, an order for the restoration from the custody of NARO KRISHEN, of all property he might have of the late GOSAEEN, as also of all books of accounts. NARO KRISHEN we find, accordingly, delivered over every thing that was in his charge, and took a receipt for the same from the plaintiff, which receipt, or *Farkuttee*, the defendant has now in his possession. We, therefore, declare the plaintiff to have no claim on the defendant, for any part of the property on which a *Zubtee* was placed; but should the plaintiff hereafter, on a reference to the debtors of the late NIRHUR POOREE GOSAEEN, prove that the defendant obtained from them monies to a greater amount than he has credited in the Government books, then the defendant shall repay all such overplus to the plaintiff. Dated 5th *Shaban*, 1230.

(Signed) JYRAM BUGWANT, *Sircar Punj.*
RAMA BALAKEE, } *On the part of the*
MARKUNDEE, } *plaintiff.*
GOVIND DIKSHUT, } *On the part of the*
GOVIND MOKUND, } *defendant.*

TRANSLATION OF A FYSULNAMEH.

BUNSEE DHUR and SALIK RAM, having given in an *Urzee* against GOOLAUM RUSSOOL and DHUNSAJEE NAICK, claiming the sum of sixty-four thousand rupees; we, the members of the *Punchayut*, assembled by order of the Adalut, have examined the business, and have decided as follows: The claim is on account of the customs of certain *Purgunnas*, which the plaintiff farmed of the defendants, for the term of twelve months, for the sum of seventy-three thousand rupees, at the end of eight months and twenty-two days; the defendants, who were the principal farmers of the customs from the Government, were deprived of their contracts, for certain failures, and all the customs and duties were taken by Government into its own hands. Consequently, the under-contractors were all dispossessed of their contracts. At this period the plaintiffs had paid, at several times, the sum of sixty-two thousand and thirty-one rupees, and three pies, to the defendants; whereas, by their engagement, they were to have paid only fifty-three thousand, one hundred and twenty-seven rupees, and ten annas, as explained hereafter; therefore, the excess of eight thousand nine hundred and three rupees, six annas, and three pies, is to be paid to the plaintiffs by the defendants.

EXPLANATION.

EXPLANATION.

	Rs.	A.	P.
73,000 rupees in 12 months is Rs. 6083 5 3 per month	6083	5	3
Per month, in 6 months and 22 days, gives rupees	53,127	10	0
Plaintiffs paid as follows:			
To the Superintendent of *Deogurh*, on account of defendants, ... Rupees	25,000	0	0
JANOJEE SUOCAR, paid defendants on account of plaintiffs, the sum of	29,900	0	0
PUNA LALL, paid defendants on account of plaintiffs,	2,500	0	0
Remissions granted by Government, ...	4,631	0	3
	62,031	0	3
Deduct, due to defendants on account of contract,	53,127	10	0
Remainder to be repaid to plaintiffs by defendants, Rs.	8,903	6	3

(Signed) KASSENAUTH WAKRAI, *Sircar Punj.*
RUMA BOLAKEE, } *On the part of the*
GOVIND MOKUND, } *plaintiff.*
GOVIND DIKSHUT, The other Member fell sick, and did not attend. } *On the part of the defendant.*

ted 22d March, 1821.

APPENDIX, No. 5.

GOLDSMITH'S WEIGHT.

			Troy. dwts.	grns.
4 Grains of Rice or 2 of Wheat	make	1 Rutee	0	2.014
8 Rutees	make	1 Massa	0	16.112
12 Massas	make	1 Tola	1	1.344

			Avoirdupoise. lbs.	oz.	drs.	grns.
8 Rutees	make	1 Massa	0	0	0	16.11
10½ Massas	make	1 Tola	0	0	6	1.14
22 Tolas	make	1 Ser	0	8	1	5.90
5 Sers	make	1 Pucheree	2	9	8	9.980
2 Pucherees	make	1 Dhara	5	3	0	19.960
4 Dharras	make	1 Mun	20	12	2	25.140

By this are measured Groceries, Drugs, Spices, &c.

GRAIN MEASURE.

			cwt.	lbs.	oz.	drs.
80 *Rupees	make	1 Ser	0	1	14	9
1½ Ser	make	1 Pyhlee	0	2	6	3
8 Pyhlees	make	1 Kooroo	0	19	1	8
20 Kooroos	make	1 Khundee	3	45	1	0

Grain, when sold in large quantities, is measured by a Kooroo. A measure which varies in size so as to contain the weight of a Kooroo of the different sort of grain.

CLOTH MEASURE.

			feet.	inches.
3 Fingers breadth	make	1 Ghaira	0	2¼
8 Ghairas	make	1 Hath	1	4½
2 Haths	make	1 Guz	2	8¾

LAND MEASURE.

			acres.	roods.	pls.	yds.
500 Square Haths	make	1 Pand	0	0	4	4
20 Pands	make	1 Beega	0	2	2	19¼
9 Beegas	make	1 Neethun	4	2	23	23¾

MONEY.

4 Cowrees	make	1 Gunda.
32 Gundas	make	1 Pice.
32 Pice	make	1 Rupee.

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* The Nagpore Rupee weighs Grs. 167.162.

FINIS.

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